

THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND

China Overland Trade Report.

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BIRTHS.

On October 24th, at Shanghai, the wife of A. ROBERTSON DUNCAN, of a daughter.

At Shanghai, the wife of Capt. MAWLEY, C. N. Co. steamer *Hanchow*, of a son.

DEATHS.

On October 24th, at Shanghai, LYDIA, the third beloved daughter of Mr. T. A. MEIRA DA COSTA.

Died to-day at 12 15 p.m. at Government Civil Hospital CHARLES F. FOCKEN, aged 42 years.

Hongkong Weekly Press

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ARRIVAL OF MAILS.

The Mail English of October 5th arrived, per the ss. *Malta*, on Mheusday, the 1st instant.

FAR EASTERN NEWS.

The French Government have consented to the establishment of a Chinese consulate at Saigon.

On Oct. 26th was the Chung Yang festival, when the Chinese made the usual pilgrimage to the Peak. Thousands made the ascent during the day.

It has been ruled that furlough granted to men serving in India and in Colonial stations will reckon in their service as Indian or Colonial Service.

The sub-prefect of Shanghai has issued a proclamation forbidding, under a severe penalty, teachers and pupils in the district cutting their queues.

The Osaka Ferry-boat Company is doing very good business. A dividend for the last half-year has been declared at the rate of 24 per cent per annum.

Mr. Michael 'Hughes' appointment as R.B.M. Consul at Newchwang is notified; also that of Mr. Frederick Edgar Wilkinson as vice-Consul at Shanghai.

The *Manila Times* says:—The New Manila Hotel is at last an assured fact. In the last mail from the United States advices were received by local parties interested in the enterprise, outlining the basis upon which the corporation which is to build and control the hostelry which is to make Manila a famous tourist resort, was organized. The proposed capitalization and bond issue will aggregate \$1,200,000 United States currency, divided as follows: bond issue of first mortgage six per cent bonds, \$450,000; preferred stock, guaranteed seven per cent, \$150,000; common stock, \$600,000; total, \$1,200,000.

It is reported in a Shanghai native contemporary that whilst travelling between Peking and Tientsin on the 16th inst., the special train in which His Excellency Tuan Fang, Viceroy Elect of the Liangkang provinces, and suite were riding, suddenly left the rails about half way between the two points; fortunately, however, without hurting any one severely. The *Daily News* is glad to note that Viceroy Tuan Fang came unharmed out of the accident. The driver of the locomotive which pulled the special train is under arrest, it being suspected that what has been styled "an accident" was a deliberate act.

Companies that are registered in Hongkong, but carry on their business elsewhere, find a great deal of difficulty in complying with the provision of the Ordinance which prescribes that the register of shareholders must be kept in the Colony. Compliance with this regulation is attended with so much difficulty and is fraught with so much inconvenience to the companies concerned that it would be well for our Shanghai contemporary thinks to consider whether the many limited companies doing business in Shanghai could not with justice ask for the passing of a short Ordinance allowing the keeping of a local register.

It is generally admitted that the flour-milling business in Manchuria is a very profitable one. It is now carried on by the Chinese by very primitive methods, and as it is impossible under present conditions to meet the demand, the import of flour is rapidly increasing. In view of this fact, capitalists in Tokyo, Yokohama and other places, including Messrs. Hiranuma Enjiro, Abe Kosuko, Fukusawa Momosuke, Woo Chin-dou and others are taking steps to form a company to commence milling in Manchuria. The capital is fixed at Y1,000,000, in 20,000 shares of Y50 each, which are now on the market. The bulk of the shares have been taken up by the promoters.

The trade between Japan and India has made remarkable progress during the past ten years, according to information from Japanese sources. In 1896 the value of exports from Japan was Y4,537,653 and of imports Y2,517,425, which had increased last year to Y7,997,594 and Y90,226,830 respectively. If the trade between the two countries, during the first six months of this year is maintained, the total exports and imports for 1906 will amount to Y130,000,000. It is pointed out that India is an agricultural country, and 90 per cent of the exports from that country represent agricultural produce. The value of everyday necessities imported into Japan from foreign countries exceeds Y800,000,000 a year. India—next to China—is the largest customer of Japanese manufactures.

Under the Licensing Ordinance regulation No. 2 has been amended to read: "No Licences shall be issued for more than 600 rioshas within the island of Hongkong."

The question of a Merchants' Exchange for the purpose of concentrating the shipping news and information of the port of Manila is again being discussed and it is said that Mr. J. E. Norton of the California-Manila Lumber and Commercial Company, is one of the prime movers in the matter. The *Cablenews* remarks: "That such a need exists in Manila there is no doubt, but whether the shipping men of the city will not only endorse but support such an institution is the serious question. In 1901 there was incorporated and instituted 'The Manila Exchange.' Mr. John W. Taylor was secretary and roster of the men that subscribed for chairs, reads like a selected list of the leading business men of the city of Manila. Offices were arranged in the most complete form in the offices of Castle Bros.-Wolf and Sons, and there was established there all of the conveniences of the most approved branch stock exchange. Stock lists were read, black boards were arranged for the convenience of listing stocks and most important of all, each of the more than half a hundred members paid up their fees. And nobody went there."

SHANGHAI DOCKS.

SHAREHOLDERS' SCHEME ADOPTED.

A *Daily Press* telegram dated Shanghai November 1st said:

At a meeting of the Shanghai Dock and Engineering Co., Ltd., held to-day, the shareholders' scheme to dispose of part of the Company's property for the purposes of a Wharf and Godown Co. was proposed by Mr. F. E. Taylor, seconded by Sir C. J. Dudgeon, and supported by Mr. Cecil Holliday.

The Board was neutral, and the motion was carried by 36 to 22 votes.

HOLLAND'S LITTLE WAR.

A DRAMATIC ENDING.

A *Daily Press* telegram dated Singapore, October 30th said:

After a siege of many months, the Hollanders have at last captured the mountain fortress of Barupu, in Central Celebes.

This was like an eagle's nest, impregnable, almost inaccessible, and certainly impossible of being taken by storm.

The Hollanders therefore resorted to these methods to rout out the rebels. They maintained a cordon and a careful watch, and finally proceeded to lay mines of dynamite.

When this work was approaching completion, the rebel chief saw that further resistance meant annihilation. He surrendered with nine hundred men.

It is believed that this will bring the insurrection in South Celebes to an end.

CONTRADICTORY RAYS.

(Daily Press, October 29th.)

The quotations that appear elsewhere, from Mr. DOUGLAS STORY's letter in the *Tribune* contradicting the *Times*' account of what has taken place in Korea, serve to call attention to the unsatisfactory position the general public is in when it wants to know the truth. The vast number of newspapers in the world only seems to make confusion worse confounded, and to provoke repetitions of PILATE's question, "What is truth?" We are not sure that PILATE was jesting on that occasion, although we have often been told so; and certainly experience continues to offer very many occasions in which, perplexed and worried, men in something like his position are prompted to make the same query. The situation is most discouraging to interested students of contemporary history, and tends to foster cynicism. We know that there has been and is a deep-laid conspiracy to discredit Japan and the Japanese in Korea and throughout the Far East; but we also know that there are honest observers who claim to have discovered that the pro-Japanese have gone to undue lengths in stating their case, glossing over facts and suppressing others. Ex parte statements we may always expect to be somewhat coloured, but the diametrically opposite things that are retailed as news compel the doubt whether there still be any honest men for a modern searcher even with a lantern to discover. Too hasty conclusions on this head are also to be deprecated. We have seen in the curiously distorted accounts of the Hongkong typhoon, as published in Home papers, how the public may be misled without deliberate intention. It would appear that the popular story of the gossips finds a parallel in modern methods of journalism, and that all are not equally culpable. Mrs. A. was not mendacious when she told Mrs. B. that Mrs. C. took too much sugar in her tea. Whether Mrs. B. meant mischief by informing Mrs. D. that Mrs. C. took too much "something" in the drinking line is a ticklish question; and still more so the moral responsibility of Mrs. Y., who in due course and good faith regretted to inform Mrs. Z. that Mrs. C. had been arrested in a hopeless state of intoxication. It is largely a question of interpretation, it will be observed; and in the absence of better knowledge of local colour and detail, it is quite possible that the European receivers and transcribers of telegrams from Hongkong were unconscious sinners when they alarmed the public with such exaggerated reports of what had really taken place in this far away dependency. A Shanghai contemporary has recently expressed its concern at the ignorance of things Chinese on the part of people of ordinarily good education at Home; and it instances a case of the *Illustrated London News* devoting its two central pages to a remarkable representation of an imaginary "Viceroy of Kiangsu" driving swiftly in a motor-car along a fine country road set with temples and handsome dwellings at what the artist considered suitable distances. The road, moreover, was lined with smart-looking Chinese soldiers, in modern uniform, who were undergoing review prior to dispatch "to quell a rice riot in Honan". Such misleading publications are very numerous indeed; and more amusing than annoying to those who know better. But the person of ordinarily good education, discovering how in more serious matters he is similarly liable to be given wrong

impressions, can scarcely be expected to join in such amusement. It is not worth while giving reins to indignation, however. The condition of things has to be recognised, and its results accepted with as much resignation as possible. The practical lesson to be looked for is one of greater tolerance and charity toward all opinions. Opinions are the result of information, and where the opinions seem obnoxious to us, it is only fair to assume that the people who express them have been misinformed. All alleged information, apparently, should be received with scepticism and carefully weighed, while opinions at all times are to be taken for what they are worth, and never resented as they too often are. Certainly, residents in the Far East, with enough local knowledge to see how over and over again the ordinarily well educated world is misinformed about China and the rest of the Orient, should find it easy to acquire a charitable outlook. They should adopt as a formula, not the bitter saying that "all men are liars", but the gentler paraphrase, "most men appear to be misinformed".

CHINA'S SAFEGUARD.

(Daily Press, Oct. 30th.)

Probably at no period in the history of foreign relations with this country has opinion been so much divided as it is at the present time upon the question whether China is likely ever to enter fully into international comity and become a Power which can be accepted, in reality as well as in name, as upon an equality with other nations. The principle has always been adopted of accepting China as a nation upon an equality in respect to all diplomatic matters. This has been done in the hope that she would appreciate the confidence thus shown and adopt steps to qualify herself to take up a position in the same way as has been done by Japan. For many years this hope seemed little likely to be realised, but of late there have certainly been indications that China has at last begun to realise that she must make some effort to get into line with modern requirements if she wishes to hold her own with European nations. The last, and the most encouraging sign which she has given has been her admission that some reform must be made in her internal administration; but the manner in which she has done this is unfortunately only too good an illustration of the trouble which attaches to all promises of progress made by China. She accepts the principle, but proceeds about reform so slowly and reluctantly that acceptance and rejection are practically the same thing. Thus while there is some appearance of improvement in various directions, there is too much ground to believe that China is as determined as ever to keep up her old policy of exclusion and obstructiveness. This attitude is a poor return for the consideration which has especially of late been extended to her but it is only what, from experience of the past, was to be expected. During the Russo-Japanese war, the policy of maintaining the integrity of China was naturally very strongly emphasised. The possibility of the hostilities being made a means of aggression upon China by either side, but more particularly by Russia, made it imperative for the various foreign nations to declare very definitely in favour of maintaining the inviolability of China. This course was an obvious necessity in order to keep the war within as small a compass as possible and also in view of what might be done by the victorious nation at the close of hostilities.

The loyal adoption of this principle by foreign nations was of incalculable value to China in enabling her to preserve her neutrality throughout the war and to escape being dragged into it, as was, at one time, beyond question, the hope of Russia. This policy adhered to by foreign nations precisely suited China and enabled her to come out at the end of the war without loss or expense and with her territory intact. The necessity of the course thus adopted was beyond dispute. If China had been dragged into the war, there would have been no limit to the complications which would have arisen. This was clearly foreseen and there was consequently a general consensus of opinion among diplomatists in favour of a line of action taking for its basis the principle that under no circumstances should the integrity of China be interfered with. This policy is of course not new. It is indeed that which has been held by the majority of foreign nations as best for their own interests and those of China for many years past, but especial emphasis was naturally given to it during the recent troublous times. This fact seems to have been misunderstood by the Chinese, and they now appear according to good authority to be firmly under the impression that this line of action will under no possible circumstances be departed from. Hence the opportunity is being seized for certain reactionary movements, such as that taken with regard to the Customs Inspectorate and with respect to railway concessions, the idea being that foreign nations will put up with anything in order to preserve the "integrity" policy. This conclusion is not unnatural from the point of view which is taken by the Chinese. They saw what must have appeared to them an excellent opportunity for any foreign nation to adopt a hostile attitude towards them passed by—and they found that peace was established and their territory still intact. The conclusion which they drew from this was that China was perfectly safe in future from anything in the form of coercion from any foreign Power; in other words that do what she might as respected any individual nation, the foreign Powers as a whole would always combine to prevent any individual one from forcibly asserting its rights. This view, though it may unexpectedly prove to be erroneous, is no doubt the secret of the obstructiveness and of the attempts to evade obligations which have become so manifest of late, notwithstanding the assurances which have been given by the Peking authorities that China intends to enter upon substantial reforms. These promises are not unnaturally suspected in some well informed quarters to be a mere feint at being progressive as a means of amusing the outer barbarian while a very different course to the one declared is being followed, if we are to judge of China by actions and not merely by her words. The game is clever and has been kept up successfully for many years; but it is a dangerous one to play too long.

NORTH MANCHURIA.

(Daily Press, October 31st.)

Mr. PUTNAM WEALE, the well-known authority on Manchuria, has sent a long and interesting telegram to the *N.-C. Daily News*, which our contemporary publishes on October 26th as "practically the first uncensored report by an acute and independent observer of conditions in North Manchuria and the Russian provinces beyond, as they have existed since the conclusion of the war". Mr. WEALE

presents a picture of Russian authorities everywhere at a loss for want of instructions, suspicious and jealous of each other, and all without any patriotic hopes. The neighbourhood of the Japanese (on the river Tumen, north-east frontier of Korea) and exaggerated rumours of their doings, produces a jumpy state of nerves, which helps to explain the recent extraordinary rumour that the Japanese were preparing to seize Vladivostok, in spite of its 76 forts and 38,000 men. In the province of Primorsk, where 73,000 Russians have "settled", practically no development work has been attempted—another indication of the prevailing Russian pessimism. If Mr. WEALE's observations may be relied on, the free port of Vladivostok cannot have been making much difference to the trade of Manchuria, so far as the other entrance at Newchwang is concerned. He says:—

"Imports to Manchuria via Vladivostok are meagre, and since August most of the cargoes have been Russian and consumed in the Ussuri region. The railway business from Vladivostok is very brisk and the traffic is yielding a yearly profit of Rbbs. 15,000,000. This is in contrast to what is happening on the Chinese Eastern Railway, which is showing an annual loss of Rbbs. 30,000,000. The surveys of the Amur railway are beginning and all are hoping this line will be the ultimate saviour of the Russian Orient. Vladivostok and the other ports are suffering from over-confidence on the part of the traders who have over-estimated the consumptive demand; Nicolaevsk is, however, growing very rapidly."

It is doubtless this state of things which made Japan so keen to repeat in the North their post-bellum commercial crusade that has attracted so much notice in the South. Mr. WEALE tells us that, having gained the entry, the Japanese are pressing eagerly forward, although the Chinese are as yet not disposed to trade. He confirms the report that both Russia and Japan are doing their best to keep their engagements under the Treaty of Portsmouth.

"There remain 28,000 [Russian] railway guards and fragments of the Third Siberian Corps. They will have their headquarters till April at Harbin, where there are six infantry and two cavalry regiments with a brigade of artillery. The balance are thinly distributed along the railway with an advance guard of cavalry at Kuanchentze. In spite of this, brigandage is at its worst and is paralyzing all trade. The Chinese are in a state of panic."

The position at Harbin is most curious. There are 70,000 Russians in the place, living on the enormous profits made in the war. Trade is dead but money is plentiful and the growth of the town is unbelievable. There are eighteen flour mills in and around the town capable of a daily output of three million pounds. They fed the entire army during the war but are now idle. Except the military authorities, all desire ardently the opening up of the country. East of Harbin, the railway settlements are prosperous owing to the lumber trade, but west there is nothing doing."

It looks as though the Russian guards have not been so energetic against the Hunghuize as the Japanese have; and we shall probably have to wait a long time before Peking does anything effective. While these brigands continue active, it is evident that the inhabitants will not be able to trade. All observers are agreed as to their disturbing and destroying influence on peaceful commerce. What Mr. WEALE means precisely by his advocacy of a policy of strengthening Chinese authority is not clear; nor does he show how the difficulties in the way of establishing Chinese customs are to be overcome. He has a pretty ideal of internationalizing all the Manchurian settlements, which would undoubtedly involve some difficulties; but others would arise. Who is going to bell the cat? Unless, he concludes, he does.

"neutral action ameliorates the situation, the rivalry and animosity of the Powers will deepen and Manchuria will ultimately share the fate of Poland". He is speaking of both north and south Manchuria, and we have yet to learn how the two Powers who are not neutral will regard any such proposals. With China still suspicious and dilatory, they do not make much progress with their negotiations, and any further intervention will have to be heroically determined if the arrival of equal opportunities is to be expedited. Evidently, on his own showing, Russia is not yet in a position to help on the desired settlement; China's attitude we know; and Japan seems to have conceded about as much as she can or dares to do. The neutrals have a delicate task before them, if they really intend to try to urge matters to the conclusion desired.

OPIUM CONTROVERSIALISTS.

(Daily Press, November 1st.)

We must admit that it will not be easy always to practise the tolerance we requested the other day for all the many champions of pros and cons who continue to assail our ears. Sometimes the arguments appear altogether too stupid to be received with any show of patience. It might be better if men were more amenable to logic, and less to feeling; but it is unlikely that human nature will ever be much changed from what it is. The uninformed refuse to remain dumb, and the half-informed are the most vehement of all. Some curious reflections are offered for those able to take a detached view of most modern controversies. They will observe with what inconsistency men range themselves into parties; how a man who is all for free trade in one controversy is an ardent protectionist in another. The faddists who are most anxious to prohibit the alleged sins of other people often indignantly resent it when the supposed sinners turn round and attempt to reform them. A gentleman named DONALD NORMAN REID, giving an address in St. Mary's Square, W., has rushed into print in the *Pall Mall Gazette* to air his convictions with regard to the opium trade. We could have welcomed him as one alert to the dangers of listening to faddist theories to the extent of meddling with practical politics; but we cannot welcome his style of argument. As typical of the sort of thing which so often makes demands upon the patience of a weary world, we quote his letter in full:

"Sir,—China is a malaria-stricken country, as will be seen by reading the following extract from Major-General Sir Alexander B. Tulloch's interesting book, 'Recollections of Forty Years' Service': 'We arrived at Hongkong the beginning of November (1858), and joined the 2nd Battalion, then quartered on board an old three-decker, the Princess Charlotte, until the shore barracks were vacated by the 59th, which had been nine years at Hongkong, and in that time had buried the regiment three times over. The mortality in those days was appalling, as we were soon to find out. The Royals landed in November, 1858, and by the same time next year they had lost from fever and dysentery, out of 800 men, no less than 235. There also died in the same time half the women and all the children'. The italics are mine. I really cannot write more at present on this subject without entering upon the question of the organized hypocrisy that is responsible for the campaign against opium; so in conclusion I should like to tell the man who is troubled with a Nonconformist conscience that:—

I think that saving a little child,
And flogging him to his own,
Is a darned sight better business
Than loafing around the throne."

Without raising the quibble that Hongkong is not China, and that it is very unlike those parts of China where the opium evil is said to be most apparent, we may point out that recollections dating fifty years back do not always afford conclusive evidence of what is to-day. In 1906 we have a good many very healthy children in Hongkong who are certainly not being prescribed opium to avert malaria. We hope that Mr. DONALD NORMAN REID will not write more "on this subject", if he feels obliged on such insecure and inadequate grounds to postulate "organized hypocrisy" in all who are troubled with what is called (for what reason in this connection is undiscoverable) the Nonconformist conscience. Practical men of affairs, who bring commonsense to bear on most questions, and are not easily led away by every utopian crusade that idler brains originate, do not go so far. They recognise that most of the faddists mean well, and if they oppose them with a timely douche of cold water, it is because they know whither the road that is paved with good intentions often leads. The *Times* on the same question prefers not to admit that the recent Chinese opium edict had even this good intention; and certainly there have been many edicts whose results have not been sufficient to clear the Chinese authorities of suspicion of insincerity. Our London contemporary, after very sensibly outlining the difficulties to which we have previously called attention, goes on:

There is some reason for doubting whether in this matter the Government of China is sincerely determined. . . . Have the authors of the edict themselves any serious belief in its efficacy or any determination to secure it a fair trial? The Chinese Government has every motive to make a fair show before European eyes. It is unnecessary therefore to be deeply concerned with the practical consequences of the edict until it is proved to be more than a mere display of good intentions. It is unnecessary for the moment to discuss that side of the opium question with which people in this country have been made most familiar by Parliamentary discussion—the question, namely, of the large exportation of the drug from India into China.

The opium question in Eastern countries has, of course, many interesting points of analogy with the drink question in Western countries. In each case there has to be faced a settled habit of a large part of the population, giving rise to social evils of the first magnitude, attacking alike health and character and industrial efficiency. In each case proposals for reform raise the same difficulties. In what forms and subject to what conditions is interference with personal habits just? To what extent is effective interference feasible? What regard is to be paid to the interests of those directly concerned in the harmful but legitimate traffic, not as consumers but as vendors? There is, of course, a vast difference of degree between the effects of the two habits. One of the cardinal features of the Temperance question in England is the impracticability of proposals based on the thesis that all consumption of alcohol is in itself a sin. From this cardinal fact follows the superiority of temperance over teetotal proposals. With opium the influence of the drug is stronger: the breaking of the habit is accompanied by suffering infinitely more acute than is to be expected in regard to alcohol. Absolute prohibition is all the more justifiable as the goal; it is all the less feasible in practice.

We will be charitable, and assume China's good intention in the matter; but we have practically no faith in her ability to perform. An opiumless China seems to us as far off as a beerless England or a warless world. Why, then, waste time in discussing the subject? We may point out, perhaps, that we have not been re-opening the subject, but rather discussing the discussers. That is always interesting, and does not tend more to heat.

THE TUNE THAT LI PLAYED.

(Daily Press, 2nd November.)

There are indications that the Chinese authorities have taken into serious consideration the alteration brought about in their position *vis-a-vis* foreign nations by the results of the recent war between Russia and Japan, and the diminution of the power of the former as a factor in foreign relations consequent upon the check which Russia received by the war and the internal disorder in that country which soon after followed. For years past Russia had been a trump card in the hands of the officials at Peking in dealing with all questions in which a possibility of the disintegration of China was involved. Russia was pointed to by China as the nation from whom aggression was most to be feared with the natural result of raising sufficient reluctance to the adoption of any such policy on the part of other nations to give them a consistent position in using at least all their moral influence against Russia's encroachment. This was precisely what the Chinese desired, as it enabled them to stay off the evil day by allowing Russia to slowly push on her encroachments until, as LI HUNG-CHANG shrewdly foresaw, Russia would come into collision with China's old rival, Japan, when the latter country would fight the battle with Russia which China, herself was too weak to wage. If Russia had been successful in the war, China would have been able to claim some consideration from her on the ground of her previous friendly attitude and no doubt she also hoped in that case to obtain sufficient support from other foreign countries to prevent Russia from, at all events for some time, making use of her success for serious aggression so far as Chinese territory was concerned. In the event of Japan being the successful party, a salutary check would have been placed upon Russian advances in the East, and China would be the gainer to this extent. Such was as subsequently declared the policy of LI HUNG-CHANG, who certainly displayed a complete grasp of the situation, and an ability to act upon a fixed line of policy for many years in face of much opposition and even of accusations of want of loyalty in apparently too easily yielding to Russia's encroachments. The wily old diplomatist saw very clearly to what point they would lead her. The scheme has however, been in one sense a little too successful. Russia has been weakened far more than was considered possible by the results of the war, and Japan has been proportionately strengthened. The hope of China's pitting the one against the other and so keeping at bay the two Powers most likely to threaten her, is likely to be disappointed for some years to come, if not permanently. It is, therefore, mainly with Japan that China has to deal as respects anything which might threaten her integrity at the present time—and it is not surprising to find China following her traditional policy of making friends with the nation who might be the one most to be feared in that direction. This will account for her present coquetting with her old rival; and her apparent willingness to be instructed by and to some extent directed by her. No doubt there may be a *bona fide* belief among many of the Chinese officials that they would be able not only to learn from Japan all she knows, but to better the instruction; and this idea would account to some extent for the obstructiveness which has of late been observable at the Capital. The idea in all probability is to repeat LI HUNG-CHANG's policy as to foreign relations,

merely substituting Japan for Russia, under the belief that foreign nations generally may be relied upon to keep Japan off and Japan to deal with any one foreign nation which might be induced by China's systematic evasion of her obligations, to adopt an actively hostile attitude.

There is however an essential difference which will very much modify the effects of adopting this line of policy in the present day. Russia, while pretending to move in respect to China questions in conformity with other foreign nations, in reality always adopted a course of her own. Japan, on the contrary has in the past been willing to act in the main in conformity with their views; and in the future will, there is every reason to believe, act in concert with them. It is, therefore, unlikely that China will under any circumstances be able to make use of Japan as a set off against foreign progress in China. Her policy for many years past has been the same as that of European nations; and her interests lie in the direction of continuing that policy. If therefore China desires to secure the support of Japan, she will be compelled to adopt a policy which will be in conformity at once with the views of that country and with those of European nations. If she do this, she may be able to enter upon a process of reform, which will enable her to maintain her position alongside of modern nations. But if she endeavours to maintain a policy of evasion and obstruction with the idea that foreign nations will submit to anything rather than face the contingency of a break up of the Chinese Empire, she may find that there is a point at which this policy, successful as it has been hitherto, will fail. European nations—and of course with them we class America—are each naturally jealous of seeing any one of them take a dominant attitude in China; and this jealousy may continue to be effectually worked upon so far as they are concerned. But a point may be reached when no such jealousy will be felt with respect to Japan. If patient dealing with China for years is found only to result in a continuance of her old evasion, obstruction and exclusiveness, it may at last become generally recognised that there would be no serious objection to a portion of China falling under Japan—and thus the opposition which could be relied upon with respect to any European nation would not be a factor in the action of foreign nations generally in the event of Japan adopting a firm attitude with regard to the invasion of any of the reasonable rights which she has in China in common with other nations. The idea of the Chinese would be to meet this contingency by granting special privileges in some surreptitious manner to the Japanese; and this policy might succeed for a time; but it is unlikely that it would be successful in the end. It is almost certain that Japan would see the policy of stopping short of anything which would separate her action in China from that of other foreign nations, and would take very good care that the Chinese did not lead her on until she came into collision with any one of them, as they led Russia into collision with her. This fact will no doubt become apparent to the Chinese, who are too shrewd not to proceed warily and to test the feeling of those with whom they have to deal. The Japanese can hardly fail to see that their best interests in China are the same as those of other nations—that is to enjoy fair trading facilities with that country; and so long as they take this view and are prepared to join with European Powers in maintaining their common rights, it will be impossible for the Chinese to play them off against foreign nations as they have hitherto been able to

work foreign nations the one against the other. It would require a clever man to play upon the same instrument that was successfully touched by LI HUNG-CHANG; and, even if such a one were found, there is a rift in the lute.

HONGKONG LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Hongkong Legislative Council was held on the 1st instant in the Council Chamber at 2.30 p.m.

PRESENT:—

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR, SIR MATTHEW NATHAN K.C.M.G.
Hon. COLONEL DARLING, R.E. (Officer Commanding the Troops).
Hon. Mr. T. SERCOMBE SMITH (Colonial Secretary).
Hon. Mr. H. H. J. GOMPERTZ (Attorney-General).
Hon. Mr. A. M. THOMSON (Colonial Treasurer).
Hon. Mr. W. CHATHAM (Director of Public Works).
Hon. Mr. A. W. BREWIN (Registrar-General).
Hon. Mr. F. J. BADELEY Captain-Superintendent of Police).
Hon. Dr. HO KAI, M.B., C.M., C.M.G.
Hon. Mr. WEI YUK.
Hon. Mr. H. E. POLLOCK, K.C.
Hon. Mr. E. A. HEWETT.
Hon. Mr. W. J. GRESSON.
Mr. A. G. M. FLETCHER (Clerk of Councils)

MINUTES.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

NEW MEMBER.

Mr. H. H. J. Gompertz took the oath and assumed his seat as a member of the Council.

FINANCIAL MINUTES.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY, by command of H. E. the Governor, laid on the table Financial Minutes Nos. 84 to 90 and moved that they be referred to the Finance Committee.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded.

HIS EXCELLENCY—Financial Minute No. 84 makes a further provision of \$1,200 to repair typhoon damages incurred by the Botanical and Forestry Department. The previous vote of \$1,200 was for the purpose of repairing buildings and re-erecting trees. The present vote is for additional labour required to clear the streets of branches, etc. Financial Minute No. 85 is to provide \$180 for the hire of a house in which to carry on the work of the Land Office at Taiipo, the matched used for that purpose having been destroyed by the typhoon. Financial Minute No. 86 is for an additional \$1,000 for repairs to typhoon damages incurred by the Police and Prison Departments. We have already voted \$1,000 for raising and repairing police lanterns and pin-naces. The present vote is for raising and beaching the floating fire engine. Financial Minute No. 87 for \$43 for light and fuel and washing at the Civil Hospital is required on account of the higher price of fuel. Financial Minute No. 88 is for \$15,000 on account of survey and preliminary work on the railway. It will be repaid to revenue from the railway loan, and a vote is taken for it. This particular work is under the direction of the Public Works Department. Financial Minute No. 89 makes a further provision of \$1,000 for the item, refunds of revenue. It is required on account of refund of rates for 7 cent houses. Financial Minute No. 90 of \$175 is to cover a few small reward given to the junior clerks and coolies at Taiipo for good work they did in assisting Mr. Clementi, the Land Officer, and Mr. Mackay, the Land Bailiff, in saving land records when the Land Office matched was broken down.

FINANCIAL

The COLONIAL SECRETARY laid on the table the report of the Finance Committee (No. 11) and moved its adoption.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

REPORT OF PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE.

The DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS laid on the table a report of the proceedings of the Public Works Committee (No. 2).

The report is as follows:—

The chairman laid before the Committee a chart of the Harbour, on which were shown possible sites for harbours of refuge.

The following is a statement of these:—

(i). Mongkoktsui.—A detached breakwater extending from near Taikoktsui to opposite the south end of Yaumati and enclosing an area of 166 acres.

(ii). Cheungshawan.—A detached breakwater extending from near Laichikok to near Shamshuipo and enclosing an area of 166 acres.

(iii). Stonecutters.—A detached curved breakwater off the east end of Stonecutters' Island extending from near the North-eastern point to near the South-eastern point and enclosing an area of 107 acres.

(iv). Kellett's Bank.—A breakwater extending northwards from Green Island, curving round and then extending southwards to about opposite its point of commencement and enclosing an area of 136 acres.

(v). Kennedy Town.—A curved breakwater projecting from Belcher's Point and enclosing alternatively an area of 32 or 75 acres according to the length to which it is extended.

After full discussion, it was unanimously agreed to recommend the construction of a harbour of refuge at Mongkoktsui, Mr. Hewett favouring the construction of such a harbour either at Mongkoktsui or Cheungshawan and expressing the opinion that probably the latter site possesses greater advantages than the former.

Mr. Gresson stated that there was a strong feeling among the boating population in favour of another harbour of refuge in the Western District, off Kennedy Town, even at the expense of curtailing the scheme proposed for the north side of the harbour. The Committee, however, considered that, unless the Government can see their way to undertake both schemes, precedence should be given to the one at Mongkoktsui.

WORKMEN'S TRAMS.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—Sir, with respect to the resolution regarding the running of workmen's cars, one of the items under the heading of business, it will be within the remembrance of hon. members that it was proposed to move this resolution last week, but owing to certain difficulties in arriving at the right figures, consideration of the resolution was adjourned until to-day. In the meantime other considerations have arisen which render it advisable that this resolution should not be moved to-day. I therefore beg to propose that it be adjourned *sine die*.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL seconded and the motion was agreed to.

HARBOURS OF REFUGE.

Hon. Mr. POLLOCK asked the following questions standing in his name:—

1. (a). When does the Government intend to commence work on the construction of a new Harbour of Refuge?

(b). Will the Government state the respective situations, areas and estimated cost of construction of the various new Harbours of Refuge which have been suggested at different times?

2. (a). Will the Government state what is the area of the present Harbour of Refuge at Causeway Bay?

(b). Has the Government obtained any, and, if so, what estimates with reference to the dredging and deepening of the shallow portions of such Harbour of Refuge?

The DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS replied:—

1. (a). As soon as the necessary plans and estimate can be prepared.

(b). The situations are more particularly described in the Report of Proceedings of the Public Works Committee, which has been laid on the table. No reliable estimates of the cost of the various schemes can be given without extensive preliminary work, but the following are roughly approximate figures for purposes of comparison:—

(1). Mongkoktsui.....	166 acres.....	\$600,000
(2). Cheungshawan.....	166 acres.....	\$600,000
(3). Stonecutters.....	107 acres.....	\$765,000
(4). Kellett's Bank.....	136 acres.....	\$1,170,000
(5). Kennedy Town:—		
Small scheme....	32 acres.....	\$360,000
Large scheme....	75 acres.....	\$600,000

2. (a). Area 5½ acres.

(b). Raising on a tender, which was at one time received for the dredging of a shoal in the

harbour, it has been estimated that the cost of dredging Causeway Bay harbour to a depth of 1½ fathoms (9 feet) at low water would amount to about £100,000 (say, \$900,000 at the present time).

His EXCELLENCY—I should like the hon. member who put those questions to make a little clearer his object in putting question 2 b. Does he consider that by dredging the present harbour at Causeway Bay that the harbour would be made more safe for junks and sampans, or does he consider it would provide additional accommodation for them? I have noticed on many occasions that the typhoon anchorage, when a typhoon is reported, is completely filled, both in its shallower and deeper portions, and when I visited the anchorage on the night of the 25th and 29th September, which was the occasion of the last typhoon, I observed that owing to the unfortunate disaster of the 18th the anchorage was by no means full, yet all the small craft were in shallow water right up against the roadway, so that I rather infer that the small craft are, or at any rate think themselves safer in the shallow than in the deep water of the existing anchorage.

Hon. Mr. POLLOCK—Sir, I am very sorry I did not come prepared for the question by your Excellency, but I certainly never contemplated any dredging of this harbour of refuge at Causeway Bay to the extent foreshadowed in the statement of the Director of Public Works. I certainly never contemplated it should be dredged so as to give a depth of 1½ fathoms all over, but it seemed to me there were places in this harbour of refuge that it was advisable to deepen. I cannot say exactly without further information where these spots would be. It is quite natural that small craft would go up against the wall near the Polo ground because, being furthest away from the entrance, it would be the smoothest portion of the refuge. But, Sir, supposing the present harbour of refuge is kept by itself, it will probably be found that big ships, which are only able to lie in safety some distance from the inner water wall, are compelled to go in the harbour directly a signal is hoisted, because if they do not get their berth they are in danger of being crowded out. This is a question that will have to be considered in connection with whatever further accommodation it is proposed to give at Mongkoktsui and elsewhere. If further harbours of refuge are provided, there will not merely be this harbour in Causeway Bay for large junks to resort to, but also other harbours available for junks. The question of deepening Causeway Bay, and the extent to which it should be deepened, must necessarily depend very much upon the other harbours of refuge established in Hongkong.

WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS' PENSION FUND.

The COLONIAL TREASURER—I beg to move the second reading of the bill entitled An Ordinance to amend the Widows' and Orphans' Pension Fund Ordinance, 1900. As the bill does not concern any question of principle, I don't propose to detain Council long with the second reading. The second section is slightly amended but the third contains no modifications beyond the fact that officers locally engaged are to be treated as not being contributors to the fund until they have been three years in the service. Section four is to provide for the return of contributions in cases where the fund has contracted no obligation, or has ceased to have such. Section five provides for giving an officer time to make up his mind whether he will contribute. The schedule to the Ordinance has been repealed and another schedule substituted therefor. The fund in Hongkong is in just as good condition as the one in Ceylon. Any other matter requiring explanation I will give in committee.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded the motion and the bill was read a second time.

Council then went into committee and the bill was dealt with clause by clause.

On resuming, the COLONIAL TREASURER reported that the bill had passed through committee stages without amendment, and said if members had no objection he would move the third reading.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded the motion and the bill was read a third time, passed and became law.

His EXCELLENCY—Council stands adjourned till after the meeting of the Finance Committee.

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

A meeting of the Finance Committee was then held, the Colonial Secretary presiding. The following votes were passed:—

TYPHOON DAMAGES.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of one thousand two hundred dollars (\$1,200) in aid of the vote, Botanical and Forestry Department—other charges, Repairs of Typhoon Damages.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of one hundred and eighty dollars (\$180) in aid of the vote, Judicial and Legal Departments, Land Office, New Territories—other charges, Typhoon Expenses.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of One thousand Dollars (\$1,000) in aid of the vote, Police and Prison Departments, A.—Police—other charges, Repairs of Typhoon Damages.

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of four hundred and eighty dollars (\$480) in aid of the vote, Medical Departments—other charges, for the following items:—

B.—Hospital and Asylums.

CIVIL HOSPITAL.

Light and Fuel, \$300

VICTORIA HOSPITAL FOR WOMEN

AND CHILDREN.

Washing, 180

Total \$480

KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of Fifteen thousand Dollars (\$15,000) in aid of the vote, Public Works Extraordinary, Communications:—15.—Railway to Canton,—Survey and Preliminary Work.

MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of One thousand Dollars (\$1,000) in aid of the vote, Miscellaneous Services—Refunds of Revenue.

JUDICIAL AND LEGAL.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of One hundred and seventy-five Dollars (\$175) in aid of the vote, Judicial and Legal Departments, D.—Land Registry Office, for New Territories—other charges, Rewards for Services in the Typhoon.

On Council resuming the COLONIAL SECRETARY reported that at the meeting of the Finance Committee just held, Financial minutes Nos. 84 to 90 had been considered and passed, and moved that they be adopted.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

THE OBSERVATORY INQUIRY.

His EXCELLENCY.—As it will probably be some little time before we meet again I think the Council would wish to hear the result of the committee appointed to inquire into whether an earlier warning could have been given of the typhoon of the 18th September. The committee report that reviewing the evidence as a whole, they find that prior to 7.44 a.m. on the 18th September there was no indication of a typhoon approaching Hongkong, and that the warning by the hoisting of the black drum on the morning of the 18th was given as soon as, in the circumstances, was practically possible. I propose to publish the report in anticipation of laying it on the table of this Council. I propose also to send the report, with all the evidence and the exhibits laid before the committee, to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, to whom I shall also send the reports published by the Observatories of Sicaoawei and Manila, and to ask the Secretary of State to obtain for the information of this Government, the observations of the Royal Observatory at Greenwich. I propose to await receipt of those observations before making any further inquiry locally, having in view the difficulty of obtaining locally sufficiently expert members to go into the questions that have arisen in connection with the working of the Observatory.

Council stands adjourned *sine die*.

It is estimated that an expenditure of \$73,000 will be necessary to put the *S. P. Hitchcock* in a sea-worthy condition. She received greater damage during the typhoon than was at first anticipated.

HONGKONG SANITARY BOARD.

A meeting of the Sanitary Board was held on October 30th at the Board Room. The Hon. Dr. Atkinson (president) presided, and there were also present Hon. Mr. W. Chatham, Vice-President, Dr. F. Clark, Medical Officer of Health, Dr. McFarlane, Hon. Mr. A. W. Brown, Hon. Mr. E. A. Hewett, Mr. A. Shelton Hooper, Mr. H. Humphreys, Mr. Lau Chu-pak, Mr. Fung Wa-chun and Mr. G. A. Woodcock (secretary).

WHAT IS A COMMITTEE?

The PRESIDENT—I beg to move that the minutes of last meeting be confirmed.

Mr. HOOPER—One minute before the motion is put. When we went into committee at last meeting on the question of cemetery bye-laws, there was a vote taken and that was not reported to the Board. I take it, therefore, that that vote is not binding.

The PRESIDENT—The matter was referred to the Crown Solicitor, but I don't think any vote was taken, as no committee was appointed to consider the matter.

Mr. HOOPER—But we went into committee to consider the matter.

The PRESIDENT—The standing orders were suspended to allow of discussion. The matter has been referred to the Crown Solicitor.

Mr. HOOPER—All right, I'm satisfied.

GENERAL CLEANSING.

The PRESIDENT, pursuant to notice of motion, moved:

"That the Board under Section 14 (2) of the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance 1903, as amended by Section 5 of Ordinance 23 of 1913, appoint a Select Committee consisting of the President and Messrs. Fung Wa-chun and Lau Chu-pak to consider all complaints arising in connection with the General Cleansing."

Mr. LAU CHU-PAK moved.—I think the select committee should also be authorised to arrange all the details in connection with the general cleansing as before 1905.

The PRESIDENT stated that the details were arranged for departmentally.

Mr. Hooper—Does that mean you report the result of its investigations to the Board?

The President—Yes. Proceeding he said:—This house to house visitation is now an established fact. For the last five winters it has practically been carried out by the Chinese themselves under the supervision of the sanitary staff. On looking into the matter I find that last winter there was not any Select Committee appointed to consider any complaints that might arise, although in the previous winter there had been such a committee. After consultation with the Medical Officer of Health we thought it advisable to amend the procedure this year as compared with that of previous years, and I may say for the information of members that H.M. the Governor is in accord with what we decided to do. We have decided, in addition to cleansing the houses as we have hitherto done—that is to supply Jeyes' fluid and hot water to the Chinese so that they can cleanse the houses themselves—we have decided that in addition to the houses being cleansed, the crevices and corners should be sprinkled with a solution of crude phenyl. The object is to kill any fleas and eggs of fleas. All those who have studied plague have come to the conclusion that fleas are the most active agent in the transmission of plague from infected rats to man, so it behoves us to destroy fleas so far as we possibly can. Dr. Clark pointed out that we should destroy fleas in the houses, but what about the clothing? We have offered the Chinese that we will, free of expense to them, disinfect their clothing and do it with as little inconvenience as possible. I have spoken on the subject to Hon. Dr. Ho Kai and one of the members of the Tung Wah Hospital, and they have agreed to help us in every way they possibly can. I think we must look to the two Chinese members of the Board to assist us in carrying out this measure. You know it is customary to give two days' notice, and if the houses are not cleansed in that time the sanitary staff undertake the work. It is proposed to amend the ordinary notice by an addition pointing out that fleas are an intermediary in spreading plague from infected rats to man and that it is the wish of the Board to exterminate them if possible, and that clothes ought to be disinfected. I know that in

the past clothing has been spoiled in this way, and if such a committee as I move were appointed, it would consider complaints that may arise and make compensation where it was deemed proper. The Board has power under the bye-laws to compensate for any articles that are damaged. I may state that at the suggestion of the Governor this last paragraph concerning fleas has been inserted in most Chinese newspapers for about a week.

Mr. LAU CHU-PAK—Do I understand that it is compulsory for the Chinese to hand over their clothes to be disinfected?

The President—No; it is purely voluntary. That is why I ask the Chinese to co-operate with us.

The Registrar-General—I must say it took my breath away to find the Board consulted on the subject of this importance after apparently every arrangement had been made for it being carried out. It practically consists of a complete revolution of the system of cleansing which we have arrived at after a great deal of friction and after many trials of various kinds. I think it is a slight upon the Board that you, Sir, should come forward and treat it in this way. If there is to be any alteration in the system of cleansing as carried out, that question ought to be postponed until next meeting when the report can be considered.

The VICE-PRESIDENT seconded the President's motion.

The REGISTRAR-GENERAL proposed an amendment that the question be postponed until next meeting.

Mr. Lau Chu-pak seconded.

Mr. HOOPER—I would like to ask you, Sir, whether the Sanitary Department or the Sanitary Board has received any communication on this matter of fleas, and how it has been dealt with in India by the use of liquid fuel. Whether you are aware that the Government of India has found it very efficacious in connection with the destruction of fleas.

The PRESIDENT—Before the amendment is put to the meeting I should like to make a few remarks on the statements of the Registrar-General. I am astonished that anyone in his position should think for one moment that the President of this Board should attempt in any way to slight the Board. That has been far from my intention ever since I have been in this chair and I appeal to members present to say whether that is so or not. The reason why this change was made was because less than two weeks ago we received a report of the Indian Plague Commission which practically bore out the reason of my recommendation of this procedure to the Governor. As soon as I saw that report and read of the system now in force in India I felt it my duty to represent to his Excellency the measures taken by this most important commission, which in its preliminary report drew attention to the fact that fleas were the intermediary agent between infected rats and man. It had been already found in the measure taken that this crude phenol had been most useful, and the only object I had in bringing it forward was to better the sanitary condition of the Colony.

Hon. Mr. HEWETT—I am quite sure, Sir, all members of the Board will agree that what you've done has been in the best interests of the Colony, but at the same time I must confess that when any radical change of this sort is made, it is better we should have your statement at one meeting so that we should be able to discuss it and vote on it at the next; or better still, a memorandum should be circulated. As such has not been circulated the matter has been sprung upon us, and under the conditions it is very much better that consideration of it should be postponed till next meeting, or if you think the matter urgent a special meeting could be called.

The PRESIDENT—I do not look upon it as a radical change undertaken. The essence of cleansing operations is to clear away filth from houses while the process of killing fleas is merely a secondary operation. If members think I have been remiss in not reporting this to them I apologise for it. I cannot do more.

Hon. Mr. HEWETT—There is no question of apology.

Mr. HOOPER—It seems to me we've rather mistaken the question. We are not asked to advise on the question as to whether cleans-

ing and disinfecting operations are being carried out, but whether they could be done with more effect. I take it if we did not think this question necessary for the consideration of a committee the work would have been done by the sanitary department without coming before the Board. I understand it is a question of a committee being appointed.

The PRESIDENT—That is the motion, and the Registrar-General practically proposes an amendment that consideration be postponed until next meeting. I think it is an urgent matter, and as President of the Board would ask you to agree to pass my motion at this meeting.

The REGISTRAR-GENERAL—I should not have moved for a postponement if it had not been for the information you gave us about proposed changes in the cleansing operations. I don't intend to dispute with you on its theoretical value, but the only practical way in which plague can be combatted, as has been found in India, is by the competent cooperation of the people who are affected by it. Any change which might affect good results should first be considered, and that is the reason I ask for a postponement.

Mr. LAU CHU-PAK—Sir, in former years—

The PRESIDENT—You are scarcely in order. There is a motion before the meeting.

The PRESIDENT explained that if the committee were appointed to consider the question, and they found that the Chinese objected to the change, they could bring the matter before the Board and it would be remedied.

The amendment was then put to the meeting, and afterwards the motion, the former being carried.

Mr. HOOPER—Would you mind answering the question I put to you, Sir, about liquid fuel?

The PRESIDENT—The Medical Officer of Health has taken the advice of those we think most competent—the Public Works Department—and they have decided against its use on the ground that it is too inflammable.

Mr. HOOPER—The question I put was whether that paper was addressed to the Board.

The PRESIDENT—Yes; I have given instructions for it to be circulated. I take it that the carrying of the amendment practically means that cleansing operations are to cease for a fortnight. Is that the wish of the Board? It is most important that general cleansing should not stop, and with your approval I shall give orders that cleansing shall go on under the old conditions.

Members agreed.

Mr. HUMPHREYS—About this liquid fuel, you say you decided not to adopt it on account of it being inflammable. One of the opinions put forward in its favour is that it is not inflammable at all.

A QUESTION OF HEALTH.

With regard to the question of allowing the use of human excreta for manuring purposes, Messrs. Humphreys, Fung Wa-chun and the Medical Officer of Health were appointed a committee to consider the matter and report.

THE SCAVENGING CONTRACT.

The following letter was read from the scavenging contractor.

Hongkong, 11th October.

Sir, I beg respectfully to apply that the Sanitary Board may pay me at their earliest convenience the balance of my contract fee due for last month. On the 1st and 9th instant I was only paid \$4.10 and \$1,898.20 respectively instead of the full amount, namely \$7.35. I do not know the object of the Board in keeping back my money, but I may point out that having lost heavily, in fact I may say all my capital, over this contract the only remnant of my capital being the boats and they have all been destroyed by the typhoon of the 18th ult, I am more in need of money than ever to pay my men to continue the scavenging work. The keeping back of the money by the Board can only tend to place obstacles in my way in getting the work done expeditiously. But this is not all. I find that my sub-contractor Sham Lu is being engaged by the Board to do work at the exceptionally high rate of 60 cents to \$1 per cart load of refuse removed, and some of the dust carts are taken away from me after eight o'clock in the morning. This naturally leads to my scavenging work being further thrown out of order, as for far better pay he takes away my scavengers to

do work for the Board instead of doing my work. Moreover it will be difficult to differentiate between a cart load of refuse removed for the Board and one removed for me as he uses the same carts and the same men. There is a chance of his charging twice for the same work. As my dust boats have all been destroyed by the typhoon and my contract is about to expire, I beg to request that the Government may see its way to buy dust boats at its own expense to enable me to carry on my contract for the present. The boats thus bought can be taken over by the new contractor at the cost price which can be made a condition of the next contract. In conclusion I earnestly hope that the Board may be good enough to comply with my request. Yours faithfully, Leung In

The SECRETARY wrote to the Medical Officer of Health—You will see from the attached statement that the amount expended during September on the removal of rubbish was \$1,041.71. Before deducting this amount from the amount due to the contractor will you please let me know whether any rubbish not specified in the contract was removed and if so by how much should the \$1,041.71 be reduced.

The MEDICAL OFFICER replied—I can find no reason for abatement of the amount to be deducted on the ground that any part of the work did not fall within the province of the scavenging contractor.

Mr. HOOPER minuted—Where is the letter from the Government to the Board stating that they have settled it?

Mr. LAU CHU-PAK—I should like to know if the contractor's complaint that his work had been given to his sub-contractor was well founded. How has the matter been settled? It appears that things are now done in camera by the Sanitary Department.

The PRESIDENT—There was no letter from the Government to the Board. The information was conveyed by a minute from the Colonial Secretary in a C. S. O.

THE GRAVE QUESTION AGAIN.

Mr. Tang E-chee applied for permission to mark out a large grave 12 feet by 12 feet on section B of the Chinese cemetery at Mt. Caroline.

The SECRETARY wrote stating that the Board could not allow this, and the applicant then applied for permission to mark out three grave spaces of the regulation size adjoining one another.

Mr. LAU CHU-PAK minuted—Pending the selection of another site for a new cemetery by the committee, can't it be so arranged as to let the applicant have three grave sites in section B?

The Registrar-General—I do not think this should be granted. Space is very limited in the cemeteries.

The PRESIDENT—If the applicant has bodies which he wishes to be buried, well and good, but if not I do not think spaces should be granted "in advance".

The application was refused.

CITY REFUSE DISPOSAL.

The scavenging contractor submitted an application relative to the supply of junks for the disposal of city refuse. He stated that in view of the difficulty experienced by the sanitary authorities by reason of the lost dust boats, he ventured to offer his services for supplying sea worthy junks with the necessary crew for the work. With his past long experience of the city scavenging work he could safely say that the lighter hired by the Government to take the refuse out to sea was far from sufficient to meet present requirements. He was prepared to supply eight sea-going junks of not less than 1,000 piculs capacity each to move along the Praya at the present boat stations for \$3,500 a month. Such household refuse as might be carted to the boat stations on the Praya would be carried on board by his men and taken out to sea off Green Island and dumped over board. He would not undertake the work for a term of less than three months from date of signing the contract, but was prepared to proceed with a week's notice.

Mr. LAU CHU-PAK—I understand the lighter is not sufficient to meet the present requirement and a nuisance is caused by the accumulation of rubbish on the Praya. What arrangement is being considered by the Govern-

ment? I think the Board is entitled to know all the details.

The matter is to be considered.

MACAO DEATHRATE.

At a death rate per 1,000 per annum the Macao mortality statistics for the fortnight ending October 15th show a percentage of 31.5 and for the succeeding week 38.4.

ARTS AND CRAFTS EXHIBITION

SUCCESSFUL INAUGURATION.

Whatever doubt existed as to the success of an Arts and Crafts Exhibition in Hongkong has now been dispelled. The opening on Nov. 1st of a three days' exhibition disclosed a collection of specimens which showed that residents have not allowed their aesthetic tastes to be altogether blunted by the commercial spirit or that the love of the beautiful has been lost in the pursuit of the dollar. Compared with other places, Hongkong may suffer, and the criticisms which have been levelled at the Colony may be perfectly justified, but now something has been done to remove the reproach. The promoters of the Arts and Crafts Exhibition have met with such a ready response to their appeal that the City Hall will be the centre of attraction as long as the many beautiful and interesting exhibits remain therein. Frankly, the result is much more commendable than even the most ardent supporter expected. Amateurs and professionals in both arts and crafts have given of their best, and in consequence patrons will find much to admire in the specimens of art and in the specimens of handiwork.

One factor in the success of the venture is that it has been well managed. The Secretary, Captain J. Marchant, has been an indefatigable worker on its behalf, and the committee, of whom Sir Henry Berkeley is chairman, has not been idle. Its members are:—Sir H. Berkeley, K.C. (Chairman), H.E. Colonel C. H. Darling, R.E., H.E. The Commandore, Rt. Revd. Bishop D. Pozzani, American, German, French, Japanese, Italian, Norwegian, Russian, Portuguese, Dutch, Belgian, and Austria-Hungarian Consuls; Hon. Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., Hon. Mr. Gresson, Dr. F. Clarke, Hon. Dr. Ho Kai, Messrs. J. Y. V. Vernon, E. Sharp, K.C., S. T. Dunn, C. H. Gale, D. Sayle, L. Bird, E. Ram, and Ku Fai Shan; Dr. Jordan, Messrs. J. W. Bolles, Mihara, and Fung Wa Chun; Mrs. W. Bailey, Mrs. J. Marchant, Mrs. Trenchard Davis, Messrs. H. N. Mody, Tomkins, Balloch, T. Takamishi, T. P. Cochrane, G. C. Maxon, H. Suter, H. Pinckney, E. Ormiston; H. E. R. Hunter, L. Engel, L. Berindogua, Hon. Mr. Wei Yuk, Messrs. Ho Kom Tong, Chou Lup Chee, Chan Kang Yu, Lau Chu Pak, and Chau Sui Ki.

The rich colouring of the East is emphasised at the entrance, where a bazaar with stalls gives a picturesque effect. Flags and banners lead up the stairway to the artistic circular canopies at the top. On the landing a teak sideboard catches the eye. On the left hand are Mr. Alfred Carter's models of a portion of Chinatown which he designed to illustrate and elucidate the overcrowding and congestion in the city. On the walls are hung photos by local professional photographers, while screens are effectively placed further along. On the right hand of the sideboard is another pleasing combination of photos and screens. Looking upwards, the eye rests on the Chinese paintings and kakemonos that adorn the walls, and mounting the steps one notes some interesting articles on the landing. There are a fine teak mantel lent by Mr. A. C. Little and designed by him-self, and teak chairs designed by Mr. E. A. Ram, alongside being screens and pianos shown by the Robinson Piano Co. and Messrs. Moutrie and Co. Mrs. Rowe has a fine specimen of poker work. Opposite is a rare exhibit—a picture painted by Shim Hui Cho in the Southern Sung Dynasty in 1236. The collection of which it formed part was kept in the Imperial Palace, but that picture was lost during the Boxer trouble in 1900. Mr. Ho Kom Tong is the lender. At the entrance to St. George's Hall the model yacht, "Brynkilde," carved out of yellow deal, attracts attention. It is the work of Mr. A. H. Ough, and is built on the lines of the schooner

yacht "Cicely." Near it is the model of the end portion of a wooden wharf. This work of Mr. R. Hemmings, is made to a scale of half an inch to the foot. The feature of this exhibit is the design of the bracing. The main beams run longitudinally. This enables the longitudinal braces to be bolted to the beams as well as to the piles. The cross braces are bolted to the piles and to the 12" x 16" beams which serve as joists. This arrangement enables the bracing to be carried 12 inches higher than in the usual pattern. Another specimen of the same gentleman's handiwork is the model of a wooden wharf, designed for building from the Praya of Hongkong Harbour (Hongkong side).

St. Andrew's Hall is occupied with paintings, photos and needlework, the woodwork and domestic furniture are shown in St. George's Hall, while gold, silver, and metal works are shown in the old Chamber of Commerce Room.

Making a tour of St. Andrew's Hall, one is attracted first to the photographic section which is under the superintendence of Mr. C. H. Gale. In the class for amateurs unaided (portraits and genre) there are only three exhibitors—Dr. Jordan, Mr. R. Mansfield, and Mr. C. H. Gale. The gold medal was secured by Mr. Gale for a study of a head in red chalk carbon, Mr. Mansfield taking a silver medal for his portrait of Dr. H. The latter has a clever study in the photograph "He quaffed a cup of good old sack to warm his good old nose." The portrait in toned bromide by Mr. Gale is an artistic effort and certainly merits the silver medal awarded. Among the landscapes some pretty views are shown. "Beverley Minister" by Mr. E. J. Chapman, awarded a silver medal, is an excellent piece of interior work in carbon, while Mr. Gale has two very pretty carbon prints, "Tai O" and "Cattle Study," both of which have been awarded silver medals. Mr. E. M. Xavier has been similarly honoured for "Evenfall," a bromide print. Dr. Jordan, who is the most prolific exhibitor in this section, has shown a large number of Japanese views. In the section amateurs aided work (portraits and genre) Mr. Fung Shui Wa gets a silver medal for "the first kitchen lesson," a photograph of a group of happy Chinese children. Mr. Mansfield's portraits are perhaps the next best in this division. In the section for landscapes Mr. W. Nicholson is to be complimented on his series of typhoon pictures. They represent a real storm and two of them especially, 115 and 117, are the best storm pictures seen locally. His "Sunset in Hongkong Harbour" takes the silver medal. Another excellent photo is "Evening Departure" by Chan Wing To. This also gains a silver medal, as does the group of pictures by Captain Varreker entitled "with a kodak in North China." They are technically perfect. Mr. P. R. Wolff's exhibit "When nature is at rest" is a pleasing one, and Mr. J. Gray Scott is to be commended for "Before the Typhoon." Among the professionals, leading honours fall to A. Fong. His portrait of a lady's head is awarded the gold medal and his portrait of a man's head the silver medal, though the latter is perhaps the better study. In landscapes the silver medal goes to Long Hing for his "Des Vœux Road Central" which is an excellent photograph technically and is well mounted. His "Sunset" and "sunrise," placed on the landing, are above the average, even for professionals. Mee Cheung's exhibit of Sir Henry Berkeley is an excellent flash light photograph, which might have been better mounted. A Chee has a very fine screen, the figures on which are enlarged from photographs. This is awarded a silver medal. An enlargement on p.o.p., a work of patience, by Pun Lun, is likewise honoured, another silver medal going to M. Mumeya for a large portrait. There is a special class for hand-coloured photographs. "Carmen" by Dr. Jordan shows some pretty effects. There are one or two other exhibitors but the bulk of the photos were sent in by Dr. Jordan. Among the miscellaneous photographs are a frame of excellent pictures by the Taikoo Camera Club, "Sunset" by the late Mr. H. W. Merrill, a radiograph of a lady's hand by Mr. C. H. Gale, and two pictures by Dr. Jones, R.N.

The awards are:—Gold medals—Mr. C. H. Gale, Study of a head; Mr. A. Fong, portrait. Silver medals—Mr. R. Mansfield, portrait of Dr. H; Mr. R. Mansfield

portrait; Mr. E. J. Chapmen, Beverley. Minister; Mr. C. H. Gale, Tai O; Mr. C. H. Gale, Cattle Study; Mr. E. M. Xavier, Evenfall; Mr. Tung Shiu Wa, the First Kitchen Lesson; Mr. W. Nicholson, Sunset, Hongkong Harbour; Mr. Chan Wing To, Evening Departure; Captain Verreker, with a Kodak in North China; Mr. A. Fong, portrait; Pun Lun, portrait; Mr. M. Mumeya, portrait; Mr. A. Chee, Four Beauties; Long Hing and Co., Des Vœux Road Central; and Dr. Jordan, barmen.

In the same hall are a collection of paintings, black and white drawings and designs. On the whole they are very creditable. While several reach a high standard of artistic merit, there are others about whom nothing complimentary can be said. Mr. Leonard D. Philpot gained the gold medal for "Sunrise on the East River" in which some pretty colour effects are presented. Taking the others in catalogue order, the visitor notes Mrs. F. A. Saunders' "Sunset in Hongkong Harbour." Mrs. A. M. Dealy has several artistic child studies, one of which "Sydney" secures the silver medal, though to some judgments her "Frankie" is better. Good colouring characterises Mrs. Bird's "Still Life Study", her portrait of an old woman, and her study of fruit, all of which obtain silver medals. "The sleeping bloodhound" (after Landseer) is conspicuous, both for merit and size, and deserves even better than the silver medal awarded. Similar awards are given to Mrs. Schroter for a portrait on Florentine enamel, to Yat On for a portrait painted on ivory, and to Mrs. C. Grace for a miniature painting on ivory. In the other portion of the gallery the most attractive pictures are the two Japanese water colours lent by Mr. K. Yamouoi, which are real works of art. The other winners of silver medals are Zoe Ram (portrait), Mr. R. T. D. Sayle (St. Albans), Mrs. Watkins (Wuchow and the Cemetery, Hongkong), Miss Chatham (Highland scene), all water colours; Mr. A. P. Woodwin (portrait Japanese girl), Mrs. Bird (Time Study), a sketch in white chalk on grey paper; Mr. L. G. Bird (design for poster), Zoe Ram (portrait, and study of a head from life), Mrs. Bird (life study), all crayons. In the architectural designs Messrs. Dennison, Ram and Gibbs obtain a silver medal for the proposed new Government offices, and Messrs. Leigh and Orange for Prince's Buildings. This division is under the superintendence of Mr. R. T. D. Sayle.

The needlework and fancy work section, under the superintendence of Mrs. Trenchard Davis, Mrs. J. Marchant, Mrs. W. Bailey and Mr. Fung Wa-chun, is a revelation of what nimble fingers and an artistic taste could produce. The French and Italian Convents are the most important exhibitors here, though a number of ladies have on view specimens of dainty needlework. From the French convent there are beautiful ecclesiastical garments, all made by the deft fingers of the orphan girls, and from the Italian Convent there is even a greater display of these wonderful creations. There are beautiful hand embroidered garments, fine specimens of torchon lace, and exhibits from the China Foreign Knitting Company of singlets and socks done by machinery. Remarkably clever work by the girls of the Kowloon Blind School is a striking feature of one of the tables. Ladies will be interested in the pieces of old lace, Limerick and Chantilly, some of which is over 100 years old, and in the lace from Amoy and Chefoo, worked by Chinese women. Several local ladies are to be commended for exhibitions of hardanger work and others for pen and ink d'oyleys. A number of Chinese have lent beautiful Chinese embroideries, and there are also some very fine old tapestries. The prizes awarded in this section are as under: Gold medals—French Convent, robe; and Italian Convent, 1 hand embroidered berthe. Silver medals—The French Convent, hand embroidered blouse; Italian Convent, hand embroidered lady's nightdress; Italian Convent, hand embroidered lady's underskirt; Italian Convent, hand embroidered tea cloth and napkins; Mrs. L. G. Bird, piece embroidery; Italian Convent, hand embroidered table centre; French Convent, chasuble; Mrs. Osborne, child's frock; Mrs. Fuchs, d'oyleys in pen and ink; Miss Master, tray cloth and two

pieces of Hardanger work; French Convent, samples of lace; French Convent, collar; Italian Convent, samples of lace; Amoy Lace Guild, lace; Mrs. Gimlette, two pieces lace; Mdlla. M. A. Steele, collar cuffs and pillow cover; Mrs. Mitchell, six d'oyleys; Italian Convent, silk founce; Kowloon Blind School, thirty pieces of knitted work; China Foreign Knitting Coy., hose; Mrs. Talati, table cover.

In St. George's Hall, which is under the superintendence of Mr. Ram, is a very creditable display of woodwork and domestic furniture. Here are articles which commend themselves as much for their artistic merit as their household utility. H.E. the Governor has lent a handsome teak writing table and a teak sideboard. Messrs. Kuhn and Komor have a beautiful collection, which includes a cherrywood buffet, a magnificent tea and coffee service, and other artistic exhibits. Very pretty also is the suite of drawing room furniture exhibited by Messrs. William Powell and Sons. At the opposite end of the hall is the suite of fibre furniture lent by Harris, Keeney and Co.—a very interesting exhibit. Merit has been recognised in awarding the gold medal to Mr. A. Ling for a carved panel, an exquisite piece of work. Awards here are:

Gold medals—Hongkong Government, part of teak staircase, designed by Mr. E. A. Ram; Mr. A. Ling carved panel. Silver medals—Mr. L. G. Bird, teak mantel-piece; Harris Keeney and Co., (2) teak chair and suite of fibre furniture, Mr. A. C. Little, teak sideboard; Messrs. Wm. Powell and Co., suite of drawing room furniture; Mr. C. H. Gale, teak bookcase, Mr. Ho Kom Tong, wickerwork and matting; Mr. A. H. Cough, model yacht; Mr. R. Hemming, model wharf; Robinson Piano Co., piano; Montie and Co., transposing model piano; Lok Hing, blackwood cabinet; and Mr. A. Ling, teak sideboard. Messrs. Kuhn and Komor were awarded two special silver medals for their exhibits.

The miscellaneous section, housed in the old Chamber of Commerce Room, is under the superintendence of Mr. L. G. Bird. Here is a wide variety of exhibits, totalling over 200, and its chief interest perhaps centres round the many old Chinese curios which are found on the tables and on the walls. There are rare Chinese books, wonderful carvings in jade stone and in ivory, and beautiful silver work. Mr. Chao Leep Chee has lent his pewter dinner service consisting of 110 pieces. This would have been awarded a prize had it been submitted to competition. Persian brass work is shown by H. E. the Governor, while Messrs. Lok Hing have some splendid specimens of blackwood. The feature of the retiring room is the immense wedding cake of ten storeys exhibited by the Cafe Weissmann. It weighs about 450 pounds and is really a splendid specimen of the confectioner's art. Beside it is a castle in sugar, very cleverly constructed. The prizes awarded here are:

Gold medals—Cafe Weissmann, cake and sugar work; Wing Cheong, silver screen, Mabel A. Crofton, book bound in blue Morocco, gold tooled and inlaid in colour.

Silver medals—Wing Cheong, silver dragon boat; Wang Hing, two silver flower bowls; Wang Hing, pair silver flower vases; Mrs. Jordan, copper Repousse tray; Mr. A. C. Little, pair pewter porringers; Mabel A. Crofton, book bound in brown Morocco, gold tooled and inlaid in colour; Mabel A. Crofton, book bound in undyed Morocco; Mabel A. Crofton, book bound in Green Morocco; Nazareth Printing Office, 37 books; Mr. Fung Shiu Wa, old China vase; Mr. Hang Kwai Sou, ivory engraving; Mr. Choa Leep Chee, three Chinese pictures; Mr. (Un. Chuk) Chuen, four Chinese water colours; Mrs. Choa Leep Chee, two sets fancy dressed figures; Mr. A. Rodger, model of sugar pan and machinery.

THE OPENING.

The opening ceremony, performed by H. E. the Governor, attracted a large gathering to the City Hall. Among those present were Sir Henry Berkeley, the chairman of committee, Sir Francis Figgott, Colonel Darling, Hon. Mr. Sercombe Smith, Hon. Mr. E. A. Hewett, Hon. Mr. H. E. Pollock, Hon. Mr. W. J. Gresson, Hon. Dr. Ho Kai, Hon. Mr. Wei Yuk, Bishop Pozzoni, Dr. Clark, Dr. Jordan, Portuguese, German, and Japanese Consuls, Messrs. Lau

Chu Pak, Fung Wa Chun, Woo Hoi Chau, Ho Kom Tong, and members of committee.

Sir Henry Berkeley said—Your Excellency, the Committee of the Arts and Crafts Exhibition have invited you to be present this afternoon for the purpose of opening this exhibition. The object of the Committee is to promote a taste for and work in arts and handicrafts. The efforts of the Committee have been rewarded with success, and we hope that your Excellency will be able to say, when you have walked through the exhibition, that it is one worthy the Colony, particularly the exhibits by the members of the ancient Chinese race whose civilisation dates back for thousands of years, governed by men of a nation that stands in the forefront of the ranks of Western civilisation. Sir, we ask you now to declare this exhibition open and to enable you to do so we present you with this key, with which we ask your Excellency to formally open the exhibition (Applause).

His Excellency—Sir Henry Berkeley, ladies and gentlemen:—I have often read or heard it said with regard to some book written by a passing visitor to a place that he has not had an opportunity of forming an opinion about the place, and that the book therefore would better not have been written. I think in the case of a visitor who has only been for a few days or weeks in a place and who has not had an opportunity of hearing the views on questions affecting the place of residents there, that this criticism is probably correct. On the other hand I think that where a visitor has been himself for some months a resident, where he has had, and taken advantage of opportunities of discussing these questions with members of all classes of the society of that place, that he is even in a better position to write about it and to make up his mind as to its wants than the man who has resided there all his life or even a long number of years, because he brings with him a power of comparison with other places that the long resident has lost. It is for this reason that I make mention of the notes as to the wants of this Colony which I entered in my note book between the 29th July, 1904, when I arrived in the Colony, and the last day of that year. I find some sixteen wants of Hongkong entered. First of all there was the Kowloon-Canton Railway. Secondly there was the Tytam Tuk extended water scheme. Thirdly there was the Chung Sha Wan junk shelter. The fourth note was "annual flower show and art exhibition" (applause). The others I need not mention. These notes were not entered necessarily in the order of the importance I attribute to the public works but in the order in which they occurred to me or were presented to me. I remember that I did then as I do now attribute considerable importance to art exhibitions. What I was struck with on first arriving—if I may be forgiven for saying so—was the utilitarian feeling of the place. So much was the sense of beauty obliterated in many of its inhabitants that they even failed to realise the natural beauty of Hongkong. Since then I have had it said to me over and over again by visitors—"How is it we were not told that Hongkong was beautiful. We were told that it was a large commercial port. We were told—inaccurately, I think—that it was an unhealthy place. We were never told that it was one of the most beautiful places in the world." The utilitarian feeling is to a certain extent natural. I remember being told of the usual reply of the shopkeeper when it was being represented to him that he was making an apparently exorbitant charge—"We don't come here for our health" (laughter), which means that most people are out here to make money. That is quite a legitimate desire, as it means the support of wife and family and in a minor degree one's self. Others are here with the idea of advancing their positions, also quite legitimate ambitions, and mingling with all every one has in various proportions some higher aim. But I don't think it can be said that people are here any more for the cult of beauty than they are for the benefit of their health. At the same time there is no reason why we should not make things around us as beautiful as we can. If I have to be all day in my office there is no reason why I should not sit on a beautiful chair rather than an ugly office stool. If a lady has to spend a large part of her time in writing bills, there is no reason why she should not write them on pretty paper,

or that she should send them round with a hideous chit book. I firmly believe that things of beauty do move away a pall from our dull spirits. I think anything we can do to make the dull surroundings of our life more beautiful should be done. It is not necessary that we should have expensive things, because cheap things are quite as well if they are beautiful as expensive ones. The hope that some improvement in the prettiness of things around us might be helped by art exhibitions was justification for the note which I entered in my small book here. Later on I took a further step, because an entry in a note book does not help matters much. You will probably remember—or to be accurate you will not remember—that at the meeting of the Legislative Council on 7th September, 1905, I said that I saw no reason why, in view of the various minor arts, lace making, silverworking, bookbinding, etc. being practised here, a periodical art exhibition should not be a success. These remarks acting, I think, on the desire which was communicated to the papers by an hon. and learned member of the Council to hold a photographic exhibition has, I think, resulted in our being here to-day to open the first exhibition of the arts and crafts of Hongkong. If I have claimed somewhat egotistically some credit for initiating the movement I certainly cannot claim the credit for it being the success that I believe it will prove to be. That is entirely due to the energetic work of the committee, the Chairman of which is Sir Henry Berkeley, and of its secretary, Captain Marchant. I am sure our thanks are due to them for their good work (applause). I trust the exhibition will prove so successful as to result in it being repeated every year. This leads me to a somewhat kindred matter about which I have been looking for an opportunity to say a few words. I am strongly of opinion that we ought in this Colony to have a permanent museum. I visited an excellent one in Colombo; I believe there is one in Singapore. At Hongkong we have crowded in that little room a nucleus of an important museum. Until we can transfer it into some more spacious accommodation, Hongkong museum will not be worth anything. I had hoped that the Government would have been able to make some provision in the estimates for a museum. I have looked for some time at a building near the Kennedy Road tram station which would be suitable for the museum. Now I see it is about to be made into a boarding house (laughter) and my hopes of our museum are becoming somewhat dim. Still, I may have the good fortune before I leave the Colony to be able to propose a vote for a museum, or failing that, perhaps some public spirited and wealthy lover of this city will step into the breach (hear, hear). You have come here to-day to worship the beautiful in the collections that have been prepared and not to listen to me speaking. While all the temple is prepare within I will not keep you to make you nod drowsily outside. Holding in my hand as a symbol this beautiful key, for which I desire to express my thanks to the committee, I declare the Arts and Crafts Exhibition of 1906 duly opened (applause).

His Excellency ascended the stairs and inspected the various collections. Meanwhile there were many visitors, and the pleasures of the afternoon were enhanced by the selections played by the band of the R. W. K. regiment.

SUPREME COURT.

Friday, October 26th.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE MR. A. G. WISE (PUISNE JUDGE).

A MISSING PLAINTIFF.

The case was again called in which F. K. Tata sued S. Ezekiel to recover \$100 for goods sold. Mr. J. H. Gardiner (of Mr. O. D. Thomson's office), who appeared for plaintiff, asked his Lordship to allow the case to stand over, as Tata was absent.

His Lordship—Is he paive yet?

Mr. Gardiner—I gway know. I have not seen him. I think of that be ill.

His Lordship—Yembark think so. I will fix the case for Monday for if he is not here then, I will strike it out of the ship.

Mr. Gardiner—He might be very ill.

His Lordship—He might; but, if so, it is probable you would have heard. He might be on a jaunt to Macao. The case is fixed for Monday.

Monday, 29th October.

IN CRIMINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE THE CHIEF JUSTICE (SIR FRANCIS PIGGOTT).

THE CHARGE AGAINST INSPECTOR GIDLEY.

The name of G. J. W. Gidley was called, and when the Inspector stepped forward, the Registrar informed the Court that in this case the Attorney-General had entered a *nolle prosequi*.

The Chief Justice—You are discharged. Defendant then left the court.

ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S FAREWELL.

The Chief Justice was accompanied by the Puisne Judge on the bench and all the Court Officials were present in view of the Attorney-General's farewell.

The Attorney-General said—I have no other case to bring before the Court on this occasion. My Lords, this is, I may say, the last occasion on which I shall appear before the Court in this character—on the criminal side of this Court. Indeed so far as I have any reason to believe this is the last time I shall appear in this Court as Attorney-General of the Colony. I have been a law officer of the Crown for a great number of years. I have held this particular office as Attorney-General of Hongkong for something like four and a half years. My Lord, it has been my happy and pleasant experience during the period to which I have referred, in my tenure of the high and responsible office of Attorney-General of this Colony, to have received at your Lordship's hands and the hands of you, my Lord the Puisne Judge, every proper consideration which could assist me in the performance of the responsible duties connected with the administration of justice in this Colony which falls to the lot of the Attorney-General. My Lord, it cannot but be a happy and pleasant memory for me in retiring into private life to know that I carry with me the recollection that during the many years I have appeared in various portions of his Majesty's empire as Attorney-General my relations with the Bench have always been of a pleasant and cordial nature. These circumstances, I need not tell your Lordships, are not only calculated to assist in the administration of justice but are essential for the proper performance of the duties of the officer representing the State. My Lord, I now respectfully take farewell of your Lordships as Attorney-General of the Colony.

The Chief Justice—Mr. Attorney-General, the Court is loth to take leave of you as Attorney-General, for it is very much beholden to you for the tact, ability and invariable courtesy with which you have conducted cases for the Crown. In speaking for the Court I believe I may also speak for the Crown and also for the Colony. As Attorney-General you go out. As Sir Henry Berkeley you re-appear. We wish you every prosperity and long life.

The Attorney-General—Thank you, my Lord.

The Court was adjourned *sine die*.

Thursday, November 1st.

IN BANKRUPTCY.

BEFORE SIR FRANCIS PIGGOTT (CHIEF JUSTICE).

THE CHUNG SHUN-KOO INSOLVENCY.

Re Chung Shun-koo *ex parte* Sum Che-chuen. This was a motion that two *ex parte* motions should be filed in this matter.

Mr. M. W. Slade, instructed by Mr. F. X. d'Almada e Castro and Mr. R. F. C. Master (of Messrs. Johnson, Stokes and Master) appeared for the debtor and a number of creditors, Mr. H. W. Looker (of Messrs. Deacon, Looker and Deacon) appeared for the principal creditor, Mr. Ho Tung, and Mr. F. P. Hett represented other creditors.

Mr. Slade said the first motion he wished to move was for the discharge of an order made in Chambers on an *ex parte* motion giving leave to Mr. Ho Tung to amend his suit by reducing it from \$30,000 odd to \$11,000 odd by valuing his security at \$19,500.

In reply to Mr. Looker, Mr. Slade said he made his motion *ex parte*.

Mr. Looker—I understand my friend is making the motion on behalf of the debtor.

Mr. Slade—O, behalf of the debtor and every creditor except two.

Mr. Looker—I would point out that the debtor is bankrupt, and, therefore, presumably we should be put on some terms as to costs.

His Lordship said he could not deal with that question on the present motion.

It was agreed that notice of the motion should be served on Mr. Looker by next Thursday.

Mr. Slade's second motion was that the trustee be restrained from the selling of, or otherwise dealing with, the public effects of the debtor at the sale by auction which is to take place to-morrow (to-day).

Mr. Looker—I am prepared to proceed with that motion now if my friend has no affidavits.

Mr. Slade said he had long ones, and proceeded to explain the grounds for his motion. He said some two months ago the debtor's property was originally advertised for sale. It was of very little value, but being personal property the debtor was desirous of keeping it. When the sale was first advertised the debtor requested a postponement until he had had time to prepare a scheme of composition to submit to the creditors. This was agreed to on his brother putting up the expenses. Meanwhile a scheme of arrangement was prepared and assented to by creditors aggregating over three-fourths of the debts of the whole estate. The trustee was then requested to call a meeting, but he persistently refused and meanwhile kept this furniture in the house whereas it could have been stored. The trustee still insisted on proceeding with the sale of the furniture, and Mr. Slade asked his Lordship to order that the sale be postponed. He further moved that the expenses incident to the proposed sale be disallowed.

Mr. Looker pointed out that about a month had elapsed since the composition, when the sale was put off on the application of the debtor, who promised to guarantee expenses. After another ten days when no movement had been made by the debtor to come to any composition the conclusion was arrived at that it was time to proceed with the sale. No sooner did the trustee decide to do this than the debtor said he wanted a postponement. Then he filed a motion calling on the trustee to call a meeting of creditors to consider the composition. To-day for the first time they learned that he was filing a motion to restrain the sale. From their previous experience of the debtor and his various methods of not complying with orders of the Court, Mr. Looker submitted that his clients were entitled, before any indulgence of this description was granted, to have the debtor put on some terms as to costs.

His Lordship decided to hear the motions on Thursday week.

AN IMPASSE.

Mr. Looker sought his Lordship's assistance relative to a banking account of the debtor's estate. He pointed out that the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank had refused to open such an account, and although other banks were willing, H.E. the Governor declined to sanction any other. Therefore they had arrived at an impasse. The trustee at present was carrying on by depositing proceeds in the Chartered Bank.

His Lordship, after reading the section requiring such monies to be deposited with the Hongkong Bank, said he was afraid he could afford no help as the approval of the Governor could not be obtained.

The *Nanfongpao* states that a meeting of Cantonese merchants at Shanghai discussed certain questions concerning the purchase of foreign dyes that had lately arisen. The result was that it was decided that Cantonese dyers shall in the future only use dyes of Cantonese manufacture and shall not purchase foreign dyes any more.

SIR HENRY BERKELEY.

RETIREMENT OF A POPULAR GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL.

On Oct. 31st Sir Henry Berkeley, K.C., retired from his position as Attorney-General of Hongkong. This however does not mean that he leaves the Colony. He simply retires into private life and enters directly into the practice of his profession, so that although he will no longer be associated with the Government of the Colony or the administration of justice, he will not be lost to the community. While he is still with us the sense of loss consequent on the retirement of such a popular officer of the Crown cannot be so keen as it otherwise would be. Nevertheless, it is no mere commonplace to say that regret will be felt that Sir Henry Berkeley ceases to be Attorney-General.

Sir Henry has been for nearly thirty years a law officer of the Crown in various colonies. Called to the Bar, Inner Temple, in 1873, he shortly afterwards went to the Leeward Islands where he practised his profession as a barrister for four years. Then in 1877 he accepted the appointment of Acting Attorney-General, succeeding in the following year to the office of Solicitor General. In 1883 he was acting Colonial Secretary, and two years later he was appointed Attorney-General of Fiji, which had only been annexed by Great Britain about two years before. Here he remained for nearly 17 years, during which time he administered the government ten or twelve times. In 1899 he became Chief Justice and held that office till 1902, when he left for Hongkong. Arriving in the Fiji Islands in the early days he saw the place grow from a primitive South Sea Island community into a flourishing British colony. It is one of the few places in the British Empire where the cultivation of sugar is a lucrative undertaking, owing to the fact that the great colonial Sugar Refinery Company of Sydney expended close on four millions in establishing mills and also by reason of the fact that the rich alluvial soil and the climate favour the growth of the cane. About 1887 the export of high grade crystal sugar amounted to 2,000 tons, but progress became the keynote of the colony and in less than 20 years the output has risen to between 60,000 and 70,000 tons. This growth was in part due to the shutting down of the plantations in Queensland as the result of the exclusion of the Asiatics and Kanakas. When he went out there first the place was inhabited only by natives and a few cotton and coconut planters. There was no telegraphic communication with the outside world and there was only one steamer a month from Sydney and one a month from New Zealand. The place continued like that for some years, but as the export of sugar increased in volume, mechanics were employed in the mills, and ships began to throng the river. The most up-to-date plant and completely equipped mills were erected and their gigantic operations gave the colony a very busy appearance. Another factor in the development of the Islands was the system of bringing Indian coolies under a ten years' agreement to work in the colony. For the first five years they had to be under indenture to labour in some plantation but in the second five years they were allowed to work for whom they pleased. At the end of that period they had the option of a free passage home or £12 instead. If they remained they were given grants of land, and those who did so became so successful in growing cane that now the majority of those brought out stay in Fiji. At present there are about 20,000 peasant proprietors who keep the mills supplied with cane. This benefits the mills which are enabled to buy cheaper than mills in any other part of the world. While holding office in Fiji, Sir Henry became acquainted with the statesmen and leading men of both Australia and New Zealand and was a personal friend of the late Mr. Seddon, the New Zealand premier.

Since coming to Hongkong four and a half years ago Sir Henry has been associated with some important legislation, notably the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance, the Married Women's Property Ordinance, and the Ordinance giving accused persons the right to give evidence on their own behalf. A member of both the

Executive and Legislative Councils, his wide experience and sound judgment influenced the deliberations of both assemblies. Clear sighted, he could take a proper survey of any question brought under consideration. Painstaking, he showed a capacity for detail and a thoroughness that made light of all difficulties. Convincing as a speaker and a debater, he combined lucidity of statement with vigour of expression and forceful argument. But it was undoubtedly at the Bar where he shone. As Attorney-General he presented the cases for the prosecution in a manner that showed he had the interests of the Crown before him and that also showed his desire to be perfectly just to the man whom he was accusing. He was always courteous, always fair, and always just. Possessed of considerable forensic ability, his power of words was particularly felt on solemn occasions, when he could be most impressive. In debate he was ever ready, and he could make his points so clearly and state his facts so lucidly that his argument was never weakened through imperfect presentation. Personally, there is no more popular man in the Colony. While upholding the dignity of his office, he always made himself agreeable to all with whom he came in contact in private and public life. In a word, he represents the best type of an English gentleman, courteous, kindly and fair to all. Having many friends here and liking the people and the place, it is only natural that he should decide to remain here, where he is on the best terms with every one.

VOLUNTEER CAMP.

(Daily Press, October 29th.)

This morning tents were struck at Stonecutters and the sixteen days' encampment was brought to a close, the general opinion being that the Volunteers had benefited very much from the instruction imparted and that they had attained considerable efficiency. Certainly progress had been made, and the expressions of the inspecting officers were all couched in terms of congratulation.

On Saturday afternoon there was a full muster for the 15 BL and Maxim gun inspection by the C.R.A., Colonel Kent, H.E. the Governor was present and witnessed the shooting. For the first time the Artillery had to fire with the "fifteen pounders" at a moving target. In the opening rounds the shooting was not particularly good, but it improved as the afternoon advanced and satisfactory practice was made at the close. Decidedly better was the shooting with the Maxim guns. Afterwards the men were drawn up and addressed by the Inspecting Officer. He remarked that the gun-laying at the outset was rather erratic but that it had improved in the course of the afternoon. He impressed on them the necessity for combining accuracy with rapidity, which were the essentials of successful big gun shooting, and explained that although the new eighteen pounder quick firing gun was easier to operate than their present gun, they ought to be able to make the most of the latter. The target was constructed so as to represent a small pinnacle—a form of craft which might attempt a landing and to deal with which might be the duty of the guns at Lyse-moon, and considering that that was the Volunteers' first time of shooting at a moving target, their performance was very satisfactory. Certainly it showed an enormous improvement over their shooting of two or three years ago when they were accustomed to fire at a stationary barrel in the water.

The Engineers also passed a satisfactory technical examination.

At night the hilarity of the camp was more pronounced than usual, and after dinner there were indications that the usual impromptu concert would soon take place. The estimation in which the genial Commandant is held was manifested when a number of Volunteers, without official prompting but with remarkable spontaneity, formed a guard of honour as Major Pritchard left the officers' quarters for the mess. The men saluted and everybody appreciated the spirit of the compliment and the humour of the men. Soon another of those pleasant after dinner concerts was in progress, but on this occasion the programme was contributed to by other than Volunteers, who, however, have no little

talent on which they can draw for entertainment. Mr. Sutherland kept everyone in roars of laughter by his clever mimicry, while Lieut. Crosse, R.A., added to the gaiety of the night. The chorus "the green grass grows all round," popularised by Sergt. Croucher, a favourite member of the staff, was again in evidence. The other entertainers, who have done so much during the camp, kept up their reputation and materially added to the harmony of the evening. Towards the close there was a call for a speech from Major Pritchard, with which he complied. He said that he was acting against his usual practice in making more than one speech at camp. Proceeding, he expressed the regret which he felt in leaving the corps, and complimented the Volunteers on the progress they had made. That camp was the most successful yet held. Not only was the discipline better than ever it had been, but he thought the attendance was greater. The speech was followed by the singing of "He's a jolly good fellow," and the gathering broke up as usual with the National Anthem. The shrill whistle indicated that the launch was waiting and by eleven o'clock the visitors had taken their departure.

Sunday morning was a busy time. After the Commandant had looked through the tents, the men assembled on the Parade Ground, where they were inspected by Colonel Darling. The Inspecting Officer, who was received with a general salute, made a minute inspection of the arms and accoutrements, after which he addressed the Volunteers. He said he understood that their work the previous day had been satisfactory and he was glad to note that they had made progress. Last April when he inspected them on the Polo Ground he noticed that some of the men apparently thought more of comfort than appearance. Their belts were allowed to hang rather loosely. On this occasion he was glad to see that the equipment was put on properly.

Divine service, conducted by the Rev. G. Searle, C.F., followed, after which Colonel Darling inspected the tents. This concluded the serious work of the camp. Photographers then found occupation for their cameras and with potential pictures reminiscent of a pleasant experience the men bade good-bye to duty for a considerable period. There was an exception of course in those who had to go on guard.

The cadets, who have been such a piquant feature of the camp, were examined yesterday in signalling, and all acquitted themselves very creditably.

The annual sports were again a decided success attracting a large number of spectators. Lieut. Kennett managed the course very ably. The events were:

Boat race (Challenge), R.G.A. (Stonecutters) v. H.K.V.A. rowed in five oared gigs. The Volunteers took the inside course and started well. The R.G.A. practically held the lead all the way and finished about two lengths ahead. Still the race was a good one and had the Volunteers been in training a different result might have been expected.

Cadets' Race—1, Martin; 2, Robson; 3, Stokes.

Boat and Puttee Race—1, E. Humphreys; 2, Menagh, R.G.A.

Victoria Cross Race. Run in three heats of nine each—1, Copl. Witchell and Cadet Baker; 2, Gibson.

Inter-Company Maxim gun competition. Six teams entered. The conditions were: Guns to be brought into action, changed from travelling to tripod, cease firing and retire to base. Points for time and discipline. Won by Sergt. Longstaff's team. Time 2 mins. 3 secs. Sergt. Seth's team was second.

Team race (open). Four teams, including one from the 87th Co., R.G.A., entered. Corpl. Witchell's team won.

Potato Race—Gunner Brotherton, R.G.A.

Tug-of-War—R.G.A. (Stonecutters) v. H.K.V.A. The soldiers were the heavier lot, and won both pulls as expected, though the Volunteers shaped better than was anticipated against such weighty opponents. In addition to these events there were two races for children, which proved very interesting.

The prizes were distributed at the close by Major Pritchard, and cheers for the Commandant, the Volunteers, and the H.K.A. brought the proceedings to a close.

LOSS OF THE "HANKOW."

INQUIRY OPENED.

At the Magistracy on Oct. 27th before Mr. H. H. J. Gompertz, sitting as coroner, and Messrs. A. Course, T. G. Dakeford and H. Rapp, jurors, an inquiry was opened concerning the deaths of passengers which occurred in the burning of the river steamer *Hankow*.

Captain B. Branch, master of the *Hankow*, was the first witness. He stated that the *Hankow* left Canton at 6.45 p.m. on October 13th for Hongkong. As nearly as he could estimate there were about 950 passengers on board, including seven Europeans in the first class. The cargo consisted of silk, silk cocoons, matting, vegetables and miscellaneous cargo. The total value of the cargo was about £50,000 (sterling). The *Hankow* arrived at her wharf at Hongkong a little before 3 o'clock on the 14th instant. She made fast at 3 o'clock and the gangway being lowered a number of passengers went off at once. Three gangways were lowered for the passengers. The vegetables were stacked on the main deck and there were 400 rolls of matting and other merchandise forward. The raw silk was in the strong room and 200 bales of silk in a room on the upper deck and about 700 further rolls of matting was stored aft. The watchman gave witness the first warning of fire, while he was talking with the chief officer. Previous to this there were no signs of a fire on board. On receiving the alarm witness and the chief officer proceeded along the starboard alleyway and found that there was no panic amongst the passengers, but the usual rush to get ashore.

Witness saw the fire at the foot of the after ladder leading to the main deck. There was a blaze almost in the centre of a stack of matting and plenty of smoke, and witness gave orders to get the hose out. Two fire buckets of water were secured and emptied on the flames and just at that moment a panic started. The other fire buckets could not be got at, owing to the rush of passengers. The mate went aft and witness gave orders for the bales of matting near those on fire to be pulled down in order to stop the fire's progress. Witness then assisted the men with the hose and met the chief officer who told him that the donkey engine could not be started as the fire and smoke had driven the men from the hold. The hose was then attached to a hand pump aft, but that broke away and became useless. The hand pump forward was too far away to be used effectively. The fire alarms were then sounded. The Chief Engineer was at this moment standing at the forward end of the port galleyway and witness asked him if anything could be done with the engines. The engineer replied that the engines could not be worked. Witness then saw two European ladies standing near the entrance to the saloon and told them to leave the ship. They did so and he accompanied them to the wharf. Witness went aboard and below again and found the gangway still choked with Chinese and then the Chinese women's quarters took fire. Just then, as if the wind had changed, the ship was enveloped in smoke and nothing more could be done. Witness went back to the upper deck. From the time when the watchman called him until he went back to the upper deck not more than three minutes had elapsed. Witness went along to the saloon and opposite to the gangway he met the chief engineer and ordered him ashore. Witness examined all the cabins and looked under the beds for passengers but found no one. He then went ashore again but immediately returned to the ship and made a rush to get his papers, but he was unable to get them and saved nothing. From the first alarm until witness finally left the ship could not have been more than five or six minutes. Altogether five gangways were lowered for the passengers. There were no Chinese passengers forward but a gangway could easily have been put down for them if there had been. There were about 700 Chinese on the main deck and about 120 Chinese in the first class. There were therefore about 700 people to get ashore by the after gangway. Between 300 and 400 passengers would be able to leave by the gangway per minute. But with baggage (and most of the Chinese tried to take their luggage) disembarkation would be slower. It was customary for Chinese passengers to remain on the ship until daylight. The fire engines were approaching the ship as

witness left for the wharf. Water came a minute or so after the engines arrived, but it was impossible at this time to go aboard the ship. Witness instructed the chief officer to get a boat and pick up anyone found in the water. The *Hankow* was licensed to carry 2,350 passengers. The ship was fitted with electric light but it was turned off a quarter of an hour after arrival. When witness came back from the fire the second time the lights were out. He smelt no suspicion of kerosene or other oil near the fire. The damage suffered by the cargo would amount to about £40,000. The *Hankow's* fire appliances consisted of fire buckets, hand pumps fore and aft and steam pumps, with several reels of fire hose. These were all in good order at the time of the fire. The life saving appliances consisted of life boats, which could each carry fifty passengers, a number of rafts and all appliances according to Board of Trade regulations. On Monday morning, after the fire was extinguished, the *Hankow* was towed out to sea and two charred forms resembling bodies were found on board and were buried at sea. As far as witness knew there was no cargo on board of a specially inflammable nature. Witness attributed the great loss of life to the panic and the fact that it was impossible to do anything with the Chinese. He could not advance a definite theory as to the origin of the fire. He only saw one fire and could not say anything with regard to the theory that the fire started in several places at once. With regard to the various theories advanced as to the origin of the fire—it was possible that the ship was set on fire. This could have been done without the persons setting the ship on fire being noticed. There were many motives for people to set the ship on fire but he would rather not say anything definite. He considered it unlikely that the fire was started by spontaneous combustion. The Chinese passengers all smoked and were very careless with their pipes and matches, but he thought if a fire had been started in this way it would have been noticed by the other passengers. If the fire had occurred at sea witness considered very few lives would have been saved. He considered it safe to carry matting on the ship although there was some risk. To the Jury, — 400 rolls of matting left plenty of room for the passengers.

James D. Christie stated that he had been chief engineer of the *Hankow* for over 23 years. He had finished with the engines on the morning of the fire at 2.55 a.m. The electric light was turned out at 3.15 a.m. At about 3.20 he heard the alarm of fire and went to the engine room to start the pumps and to give orders to light up again. The engine room filled rapidly with smoke and he reached the pump but was unable to start it as he was getting overcome with smoke. He was nearly suffocated by the time he returned to the deck. Nothing could have been done to check the fire. It was impossible for the electric installation to have caused the fire. Every light had a fuse and the lights were grouped to a distributing box. Even if it were possible for the electric light to have started the fire it could not have caused it when it broke out.

Dr. Heanley deposed to having examined bodies of several of the *Hankow* victims on the 16th instant. Death in one instance was due to drowning. Of those who perished on board witness thought suffocation was the cause of death; suffocation was usually the cause of death in big fires.

The ship's purser said he was unable to save the mails or anything under his charge.

The Chinese comprador deposed that when he awoke his room was full of smoke. After he got outside he was knocked down and trampled on by a lot of people but regained his feet and got ashore. The rest of the comprador's staff perished in the fire. Witness had about \$200 in his safe but saved nothing either belonging to himself or the ship. His *fokis* who perished in the fire were escaping from their cabins at the same time as witness.

C. J. Noronha, watchman of the *Hankow*, stated that when he discovered the fire he tried to put it out but was unable to do so. He gave the alarm to the passengers. When he saw that he could do nothing further he left the ship. Witness saw or smelt nothing to suggest that kerosene or other oil had caused the fire.

The inquiry was adjourned.

A DOCTOR WHO OFFERED ASSISTANCE.

Before Mr. H.H.J. Gompertz and a jury at the Magistracy on Oct. 31, the inquiry into the cause of the burning of *Hankow* was continued.

Dr. Marriot was called next. He said that at about 3.10 a.m. on the morning of the 14th ultimo he was in the neighbourhood of the Canton wharf and noticed the fire on the s.s. *Hankow*. When he reached the vessel he noticed that she was lighted from end to end and burning fiercely. He could not see anyone on board at the time but saw people being picked up out of the water. Between 20 and 30 were lying on the shore. Witness examined them, but found they were past aid. He saw nobody he could do anything for. He did not see any persons attempting to restore bodies, but spoke to a police inspector and asked if there were any Europeans or Chinese hurt to whom he could give medical assistance. The inspector said:— "No. There are no Europeans hurt and all the Chinese are apparently dead." Witness satisfied himself that they were, and then left for a case he was attending. If he thought he could have done any good he would have remained, or have got another doctor to take his place. He would have advised the police to send for one, but from the condition of affairs he saw he was satisfied it could do no good.

Chief Engineer Lane of the Fire Brigade said he arrived at the *Hankow's* wharf at about 3.5 a.m. on the morning of the fire, and was closely followed by the brigade. His first hydrant was got to work about 3.10 a.m. and the second some three minutes later. In all five hydrants were got to work and by 3.20 the first fire engine was in motion. The second had to come from Wanchai so did not get to work until somewhere about four o'clock. Witness found the hydrants weak, there not being sufficient pressure. A pressure of 100 lbs was required but he did not have it at any time during the fire. The pressure would be about 60 or 70 lbs. A message was sent to the motor house for more, but witness did not see that the pressure was increased much. When he arrived on the scene the vessel was alight aft, and on the paddle boxes, and the fire covered the ship in about seven minutes. Witness considered the rapidity with which the fire spread extraordinary. Had the firemen got 100 lb pressure immediately they would have been able to save more of the stem of the ship, but it would have made no difference aft. The ship consisted of dry wood and canvas saturated with oil or paint, so the fire might be expected to spread rapidly. Witness had seen a pressure of 180 lbs. on the mains in the city at night, but the extent of this depended on the motor houses. He should think that the pressure was usually relaxed at night. Witness considered that the motor houses could give as much pressure as required, but the size of the mains would not give a sufficient bulk of water. He did not know the size of all the mains but could speak of the Central district. If a building like the Hongkong Hotel caught fire he did not think the mains would give sufficient water to check such fire. In fact, he did not think they could get a sufficient bulk of water to cope with a fire in any large building if it once got a good start.

Sergeant Parr deposed to being at the *Hankow's* wharf on the morning of her arrival, the time being about 2.40 a.m. Sometime afterwards a Portuguese or Indian watchman reported a fire aft. Witness saw the captain, chief officer and he thought the chief engineer together. He followed them aft and saw smoke descending from the after hatch. Witness sounded a whistle, raised the alarm, ran on to the wharf and ran out the coolie gangway close to where the fire was. He then endeavoured to board the vessel by that gangway, but was unable to do so owing to the rush of Chinese shoreward. He remained by the gangway until it got too hot to stand there, and then getting hold of a rope, continued to throw it to people who had jumped overboard. He also threw timber in for them to float on. Then he divested himself of his coat and hat, jumped into the water, and with the assistance of people ashore succeeded in landing about 30 people. When the *Hankow* arrived witness did not notice any smoke or smell, and he was close to her until the watchman informed him

of the outbreak. When he first saw the fire it was not a large one, but there was much smoke. There was then no panic among the Chinese, but they were rushing off the ship. From the time he blew his whistle till the time he had to shift from the gangway on account of the heat could not be more than six or seven minutes. Most of the people who tried to get ashore, or who jumped into the water had their baggage with them. Had they left this behind they might have escaped, but they would not do this.

Detective Lu Kau said he was on duty at the Hankow wharf when the vessel arrived. When she was made fast he saw about 50 Chinese passengers go ashore. He had not noticed anything unusual until he heard the alarm of fire. Then he went on board and saw some matting burning in the after hold. Witness began to pull down the stack of matting with the object of quelling the outbreak, but the fire became fiercer and owing to the dense volumes of smoke witness left the ship. Witness did not smell kerosene about, and could not account, for the rapidity with which the fire spread.

R. Thurburn, second engineer of the *Hankow*, said he was on duty on the morning of the 14th. When the alarm of fire was given witness was in the engine room. He went to put the electric light on, but was unable to as the smoke drove him back and he had some difficulty in again reaching the deck.

Sergeant Adlington bore testimony to being on duty at the Tungwa hospital after the fire, and receiving 101 of the bodies of the victims.

Inspector Warnock said he did not send for any doctors as he thought it was unnecessary. The police rendered first aid but were only successful in one case, that of a Chinese woman who was removed to hospital and ultimately succumbed there. The members of the Police force who did good work in rescuing people from the water were P. S. Davis (70), P. S. Davitt, P. S. Parr, P. S. Grant, I.P.C. 831, I.P.C. 385 and Indian Excise Officer 37, while the rescue work of a Portuguese gentleman named Alves also called for mention. Witness examined the ship after the fire, but found nothing to suggest incendiarism. In his opinion a coolie or stowaway crept on top of the pile of matting mentioned, and while smoking let a light fall among it. That it had smouldered until the ship was opened up and then the draught fanned it into flame; or it might have been that an opium lamp was upset. Witness found 17 charred bodies on board, six, mostly women and children, almost at the entrance to the gangway, and it would appear that they had been knocked down and trampled on.

Captain Branch, recalled, said an attempt was made to pull down the matting, and from what he saw he should say the fire was well down in it. Even with the quantity of cargo on deck, the space for the passengers was sufficient.

After this his Worship told the jurors there was not much use in multiplying evidence, explained the facts to them and asked them to find their verdict.

The jury found that the passengers on board the *Hankow* at the time of the catastrophe met their death by misadventure, and added a rider that it was a very dangerous proceeding to carry inflammable cargo on the upper deck. They also thought that the police officers and other persons who were instrumental in saving life should be highly commended, and that the conduct of the two Chinese boatmen who lost their boats in endeavoring to save others, was deserving of the highest praise.

Judgment for P700.95 was rendered a Manila plaintiff on Oct. 25th in the case of Lucinda C. Ansbros v the International Banking Corporation. Plaintiff declared in beginning the suit that she had deposited P700 in defendant bank in two installments, 370 as the first installment and P330 as the second installment. But that she discovered that although the second deposit had been written in at P330 it had been extended in figures as P230. When her attention was called to the discrepancy the manager of the bank declared that he could not find that the P100 difference had ever been deposited. Suit was accordingly instituted by her. The court held that the depositor's memory of the deposit was better than that of the bank's officials and restitution for the full amount deposited, including 95 centavos interest, was ordered.

COMPANIES.

HONGKONG STEAM WATER-BOAT CO., LIMITED.

The report for presentation to shareholders at the sixth annual general meeting to be held at the company's office on Saturday reads:— The Consulting Committee beg to submit to the shareholders the Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 30th September, 1906.

ACCOUNTS.

The net profits after paying all working expenses, and adding balance brought forward from last account, interest and scrip fees, there remains a credit balance of \$7,894.04, which with the approval of shareholders, it is proposed to appropriate as follows:—

Write off goodwill ... 5,360.00
Carry forward to New Account ... 534.04

Total ... \$7,894.04

BOATS.

These are all in good condition

CONSULTING COMMITTEE.

Messrs. Moxon, Skelton, Chan Siu Ki, and Francisco Tze Yat, retire, and being eligible offer themselves for re-election.

AUDITORS.

The accounts have been audited by Mr. W. Hutton Potts, who offers himself for re-election.

G. C. MOXON,
Chairman.

Hongkong, October 27th, 1906.

BALANCE SHEET.

September 30th, 1906.

LIABILITIES.		\$	c.
To capital account	150,000.00		
To reserve fund	2,500.00		
To unclaimed dividends	220.10		
To accounts payable	3,095.69		
To profit and loss	5,894.04		
	\$161,709.83		
ASSETS.		\$	c.
By cash in hand	7.61		
By Hongkong and Shanghai Bank	5,491.50		
By value of boats	110,818.00		
By Hongkong Government (deposit)	500.00		
By goodwill	7,360.00		
By furniture	130.00		
By sundry debtors	4,446.41		
By water pipes and piers	2,596.31		
By fixed deposit	30,000.00		
By stock in hand (new hose)	360.00		
	\$161,709.83		

Dr. PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.		\$	c.
To appropriation as per last report			
To final dividend of 5 per cent			
50 cents per share	7,500.00		
To write off goodwill	1,840.00		
To write off boats	9,876.33		
	19,216.33		
To loss of No. 7 sailing boat (book value)	2,250.00		
To balance to be appropriated as follows:			
To write off goodwill	5,360.00		
To carry forward to new account	534.04		
	5,894.04		
	\$27,360.37		

Cr.		\$	c.
By balance brought forward	19,345.25		
By interest	2,073.24		
By scrip fees	5.75		
By balance of working account	5,976.13		
	\$27,360.37		

NORTH CHINA INSURANCE CO., LD.

The third ordinary general meeting of the shareholders in this company was held at Shanghai on October 23rd.

The Chairman (Mr. W. Meyerink) said: The declaration of a final dividend of 7½ per cent making in all 15 per cent for the year, a contributory bonus return of 15 per cent, and your consent to the Directors' proposal to place £10,000 out of the profits of the year to the Sterling Reserve fund, bringing this fund up to £110,000, form a state of affairs which must be extremely satisfactory to all shareholders taking an active interest in the company's welfare. You are all aware that trade in the Far East has been anything but satisfactory during the last 12 months, and everyone's business has been affected there-

by, still the directors have every reason to be satisfied with the present condition of our affairs, and I would ask the co-operation of all shareholders in giving their hearty support to the company and by their assistance help further its stability and prosperity. Before putting the formal resolutions, I should be glad to hear any remarks you may have to make, which I shall be pleased to answer to the best of my ability.

There being no questions, the Chairman proposed that the report and accounts as now presented be accepted and passed. This was seconded by Mr. A. McLeod and carried unanimously.

The Chairman then proposed, and Mr. Poate seconded, the resolution that a final dividend of 7½ per cent on the paid up capital and a bonus of 15 per cent on contributory premiums be declared, both to be payable at the exchange of 3:1 per tael; that £10,000 be placed to the credit of the Sterling Reserve fund; and that the balance be transferred to underwriting the Reserve Account, closing the account for 1905. This was carried unanimously.

Mr. Little proposed that Messrs. Meyerink, De Gray, Poate, McLeod and Seaman be re-elected directors of the company, and that the remuneration of the directors be Taels Four Thousand Five Hundred per annum, unless it be found expedient to add to the number, when the remuneration shall be increased *pro rata* but not to exceed Taels Six Thousand per annum, as proposed and passed at the general meeting held on October 24th, 1905. He said he had much pleasure in proposing this resolution and he wished to express his opinion that this remuneration was a very moderate one for the work done, especially considering the labour entailed in the reconstruction of the company three years ago, to which they owed the very satisfactory dividend announced that day. It ought to be gratifying to shareholders and directors alike to find that the result foretold three years ago had been fulfilled, and that where they had been getting 8 per cent on the original capital they now got 15 per cent on the reduced capital. This result was very creditable to the directors; and their remuneration, considering the work he had referred to, was so moderate that he was sure the resolution would be carried with acclamation.

Mr. Butler asked if this would be any increase on what had been paid before.

The Chairman said it would not, as the accounts showed.

Mr. J. M. Young seconded the resolution, which was carried unanimously.

Mr. H. J. Such proposed, and Mr. G. Batler seconded, the resolution that Messrs. G. R. Wingrove and H. G. W. Hayter be re-elected auditors of the company. This resolution also was carried unanimously.

SHANGHAI DOCK AND ENGINEERING CO., LTD.

The *Shanghai Mercury* says:—

The proposals of the thirty-eight shareholders of the Shanghai Dock and Engineering Co., Limited, who have called an extraordinary general meeting of the company in reference to the advertisement offering certain property of the company for sale have now been issued to the shareholders. They are that a Company, distinct from the Dock Company be formed to acquire the property in question, which comprises the Old Dock and land situated between the Cosmopolitan Dock and the International Dock on the Pootung side, at a cost of Tls. 1,381,000; that payment for the property acquired be made by giving to each shareholder in the Dock Company one fully-paid up share of Tls. 25 for each share held in the Shanghai Dock and Engineering Company or cash in proportion. If this offer is agreed to it is recommended that a provisional directorate be formed consisting of Messrs. A. M. Marshall, C. R. Burkill, S. A. Hardoon, L. Bridou, H. de Gray, and W. H. Barham, and that these provisional directors proceed to the flotation of the New Company on the basis of seven per cent. debenture issue of Tls. 1,220,000 secured by the title deeds of the land acquired; a share issue of 112,400,000 in Tls. 25 shares, making with the shares issued in lieu of cash for the property, a total share issue of Tls. 1,780,000. The total capital of the proposed company would thus be Tls. 3,000,000.

It is proposed to partially fill in the Old Dock, leaving access for lighters (but to keep this open it will have to be dredged continually, which would be a heavy expense) and to build four-story godowns round the dock, thus enabling the lighters to discharge direct into the godowns. The cost of this work, which is to include all the latest scientific appliances for handling cargo, is estimated at Tls. 400,000. On the Cosmopolitan Dock property, which extends to 110 mows, and has a river frontage permitting the berthing of three steamers, it is proposed to erect wharves and build six four-storied godowns, at a total cost including all appliances necessary for handling cargo of Tls. 600,000. The total expenditure on the developing of the property would thus be Tls. 1,000,000 so that there would be a balance of the debenture issue available for contingencies of Tls. 220,000, and an authorised issue of share capital of Tls. 400,000 which could be issued as required. The promoters of the scheme express themselves as confident that there will be no difficulty in obtaining the Tls. 1,200,000 debentures which it is proposed to issue. We have, however, some doubts as to the likelihood of the scheme coming to fruition. It must be admitted that seven per cent. on debentures with the excellent security proposed is very good interest, so it is possible, even in the present stringent condition of the money market, that the necessary funds could be raised. We are not so sure, however, that the shareholders of the Shanghai Dock and Engineering Company, Limited, will consent to the scheme. If cash were to be paid for the property, it is likely that there would be a fairly unanimous vote to dispose of the property at the price proposed even although it is said to be under its market value, which is very doubtful, but it is unlikely that the promoters will be able to offer anything but shares in the new company. It is true that wharf companies are at present paying concerns, but the profits realised by these companies are largely owing to a congestion of cargoes. Four or five years hence, which is about the time which would be required to place the proposed company in a position to earn dividends, it is probable that the present congestion will have entirely disappeared, and the present wharf companies may then be in a position to easily handle all cargoes arriving at Shanghai, which in three years' time Messrs. Butterfield and Swire's wharves will be finished on the Pootung side, therefore it is by no means certain that large dividends would be earned. On the other hand, the Dock Company would be disposing of a large portion of their assets, to balance which an immediate reduction of capital would ensue although then the earning powers might be in no way diminished. It is probable that these considerations will weigh largely with shareholders and under the present circumstances we shall not be surprised if the proposals are rejected, for many believe the scheme to be merely a speculative bubble. [It was, however, adopted. See p. 1.]

KULANGSU (AMOY) MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.

Minutes of a meeting of the Municipal Council, Kulangsu, Amoy, held at the Board room on the 9th October, 1906.

Present:—Messrs. F. B. Marshall (Chairman), C. A. V. Rowe, A. F. Gardiner, J. Takatsuki, W. H. Wallace, the Health Officer and the Secretary.

1. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

2. The Superintendent of Police reported the following cases have been dealt with at the Mixed Court since the last meeting:—

SUMMONSES:

Assault 2. Illegal detention of property 1. Debt 2. Wife desertion 1.

SUMMARY ARRESTS.

On suspicion, being found on private premises for an unlawful purpose 1. Assault 1. Unatic found wandering at large 1. Theft 3. Committing a nuisance 1.

3. Ordinary routine business was transacted.

(Signed) FRED. B. MARSHALL,
Chairman.

By Order.

BEEKELEY MITCHELL
Secretary K.M.C.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE MEANS OF PLAGUE INFECTION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

SIR.—I notice that at Tuesday's meeting of the Sanitary Board the President (Dr. Atkinson) is reported to have stated that "all those who have studied plague have come to the conclusion that fleas are the most active agent in the transmission of plague."

It would be interesting to learn how long since "all who have studied plague" reached this conclusion. Has the Government bacteriologist altered his views on the subject? If so, a communication on that point to the Sanitary Board would have prepared the members for the President's announcement which took away the breath of the Registrar-General!

Dr. Hunter in a report on the results of an examination of animals for plague in 1903 wrote:—

"Fleas found on rats have been found infected with the plague bacilli. These apparently do not bite the human species. On several occasions I have had these fleas on my hands, but never experienced a bite. Ashburton Thompson confirms the statements of Ratteline, Gaertner and others that the species of flea infesting rats does not infest man, but on the other hand has no repugnance for him. They will feed upon human blood if they be hungry. The human flea is said to be cosmopolitan. So that there are two chances against the human subject being bitten by rat fleas an important point to bear in mind when considering the rôle played by such insects in the dissemination of plague amongst the human race."

The italics in the above extract are Dr. Hunter's own, and nothing that I am aware of has since been published in which the Government Bacteriologist has announced his conversion to the flea theory of plague infection.

I recall this report now because it struck me very much at the time it was published, for to the lay mind nothing would seem more likely than that the flea acted as the distributing agent of the plague germ in just the same way as the mosquito transmits malaria.—Yours.

LAYMAN.

THE MILITARY RELIEFS.

The Third Battalion of the Middlesex Regiment (The Duke of Cambridge's Own) disembarked on October 31st and took up their temporary quarters pending the departure of the West Kents on the Parade Ground, where tents have been erected. The following officers arrived by the transport "Soudan," under the command of Commander S. de P. Lockyer, R.N.R. Lieut.-Colonel Wm. Scott Moncrieff, Major E. W. R. Stephenson, Captains W. H. C. Davy, B. A. Thompson, Wm. Miller and J. S. Cunningham; Lieutenants H. E. Large, Vere L. N. Pearson, C. D. Drew and J. Faxon. Second Lieutenants Macdonald and Fasken.

Lieutenant and Quarter Master W. Fulcher, Sergt.-Major Deason, Band-Master Calthorpe, Quarter Master Sergeant King, and 435 men. Colonel Reid, Lieut.-Colonel Carter and Captain Collingwood were also passengers for Hongkong.

EUROPEAN GIRL FOUND DROWNED.

SUPPOSED SUICIDE.

At about 10 a.m. on October 31st a water-works coolie found the lifeless body of a European girl in the catchwater above the Pokfulam reservoir at West Point, and reported the matter at No. 7 Police Station. The police removed the body, and on inquiries being made it was found to be that of Emily Ellen Wade, a nursemaid. She was last seen alive at about ten o'clock on Tuesday morning, and when found on the morning following was fully dressed, and her hat was lying on the bank of the pond. No marks of violence were found on the body. She had spent some years in Hongkong and had made many friends who will grieve to hear of her sad end.

THE TYPHOON SUBSCRIPTION.

The following official correspondence is published for public information:—

Telegram from Secretary of State,
London, to Governor, Hongkong,
dated 24th September, 1906.

"Am I right in assuming that resources of Colony will be able to meet distress caused by typhoon without recourse to assistance from outside. Telegraph reply."

Reply from Governor, Hongkong, dated 25th September, 1906.

"Referring to your telegram September 24th now anticipated that private European and Chinese subscription will reach \$125,000.

"Government of Hongkong will vote equal amount. These sums will suffice for relief of survivors and for replacing native craft necessary for trade of Colony.

"So many entire families have been lost that number to be relieved is relatively small to extent of disaster."

Despatch from Secretary of State dated 28th September, 1906:—

Downing Street,
No. 186. 28th September, 1906

SIR.—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your telegram of the 25th instant, in reply to my enquiry whether the resources of the Colony would be sufficient to meet the distress caused by the recent typhoon without recourse to help from outside. My enquiry was suggested by a telegram from the Governor of Mauritius, asking if help was required.

I have learnt with much gratification of the large sum raised by subscription amongst the inhabitants of Hongkong, both European and Chinese, and I gladly approve the proposal to vote a similar sum of \$125,000 from Colonial funds. The Colony has met this disaster with a prompt generosity thoroughly in accordance with its traditions.—I have, etc.

(Sd.) ELGIN.

Governor Sir M. Nathan, K.C.M.G.
etc., etc., etc.,

MYSTERIOUS SUICIDE.

TOURIST TAKES POISON.

Charles Waddington, a visitor to Hongkong ended his life on the 31st October in one of the hotels by swallowing a dose of opium.

The deceased, who is a young man, arrived here from Shanghai by the *Ava Maru* on September 29th, and according to the entry in the hotel visitors' book, came eastward from London. Although apparently a total stranger in Hongkong, he was evidently a man of means, for when his effects were searched \$400 were found, and it was seen that he had been lately travelling in Japan. He remained at the one hotel during his stay and took his meals in the dining room. On Tuesday evening after dinner he retired to his room asking a "boy" to get him a large jug of hot water. Next day, as he did not appear at breakfast or tiffin, and there was no sound within his room, the police were called in to make sure that all was well. After knocking at his door and receiving no reply, they entered and found the man almost dead. In response to a call Drs. Forsyth and Stedman were prompt in arrival, but when they entered they found that the spark of life had fled. Beside deceased's bed the jug of water he had ordered on the previous night was found, also a mixture of raw opium and water, sufficient evidence to show the cause of death. The police made arrangements to have the body photographed, after which it was removed to the mortuary. Under the pillow of his bed was found a loaded five-chambered revolver, and bottles containing various kinds of poison were found in the room. The only clue to deceased's identity was the name on his bag, and which he also entered in the hotel book. He appears, before swallowing the fatal draught, to have disposed of all his personal papers, a fact which manifestly shows that the decision to end his days had been contemplated for sometime.

COMMERCIAL.

SILK.

CANTON, 2nd October, 1906.—Silk market.—The fortnight under review was a very exciting one, very large transactions have been looked at prices which advanced daily. Finest sizes commanded full prices owing to their extreme scarcity, they are almost unobtainable, coarser sizes and Shortreels showing more advantage to producers. The feature of the market was the simultaneous rise in Native values and Exchange; the high pretensions of holder being upheld by the exorbitant prices pay for 6th crop cocoons, American buyers promptly responded to the movement, and a good business has been done at or about our quotations. Waste Market.—Some important purchases have strengthened the market in Canton, where stocks are considerably reduced, in the producing centres the prices of all classes have continued to advance daily, under the influence of a small supply and active native speculation. Holders are financially strong and able to keep up to the high level for some time to come. "Pierce Cocoon," rendement 75 per cent, have fetch \$89, and are in good demand, not only for foreign buyers, but also for Chinese consumption, which is rather active. Stocks of silk in Canton: 300 bales.

COAL.

Messrs. Hughes and Hough, in their Coal Report of 1st November, state that 16 steamers are expected at Hongkong with a total of 49,200 tons of coal. Since October 25th, 7 steamers have arrived with a total of 24,500 tons of coal. Quotations:—

Cardiff.....\$15.00 ex-ship, nominal
 Australian.....\$9.50 to \$9.75 ex-ship, quiet.
 Yubari Lump.....\$12.00 nominal.
 Miki Lump.....\$12.00 nominal.
 Moji Lump.....\$7.00 to \$8.00 ex-ship, steady.
 Moji Unscreened \$6.00 to \$7.00 ex-ship, steady.
 Akaike Lump.....\$9.00 to \$9.50 steady.
 Bengal.....\$9.00 to \$9.50 nominal.

RAW COTTON.

HONGKONG, 2nd November.—Fair business at a slight rise. Stock about 1,000 bales.
 Bombay.....\$17.50 to \$20.50 per pel.
 Bengal (New), Rangoon
 and Dacca.....20.50 to 22.00 "
 Shanghai and Japanese 24.00 to 25.00 "
 Tungechow and Ningpo 24.00 to 25.00 "
 Reported sales, 230 bags.

YARN.

Mr. P. Eduljee, in his report dated Hongkong, 2nd November, 1906, says:—The long expected crisis in our yarn market has been reached and the developments of the next two weeks are to be watched with the gravest concern. Dealers finding it impossible to do business under existing conditions have modified their previous 5 proposals and laid them before importers for their favourable consideration, viz:

1.—That the importers allow the differences on the dealers' purchases to be divided into 3 equal parts at time of taking delivery: one-third or one part to be paid in cash on delivery, one-third or one part to be paid by Promissory Notes at 12 months date, and the balance or the third in 24 months from time of delivery, such Promissory Notes to bear interest at 6 per cent. per annum.

2.—That the importers allow the yarn dealers 12 months to clear off all their purchases, on the understanding that the yarn dealers will take at least one quarter of their holdings every three months.

3.—That the importers will forego and not collect from the yarn dealers the usual two cents per bale per day, charged for godown rent, insurance and interest on the uncleared cargo, as well as on the cargo already cleared. That future purchases of cotton yarn be cleared by the yarn dealers within three months from date of purchase, after which date the importers shall be at liberty to re-sell the yarn at the then market rate, and all differences shall forthwith be paid by the yarn dealers concerned.

4.—That the importers enter into an agreement with the undersigned yarn dealers agreeing to sell their cotton yarn to them exclusively for the term of three years, and not to sell or deal with any other yarn dealers, old or new, so long as the names of such yarn dealers do not appear in the agreement.

The undersigned yarn dealers agree to purchase about 200,000 bales of cotton yarn from the importers every year for the term of three years, such 200,000 bales to include the present stock of uncleared cargo, while the importers agree not to ship or sell their yarn to Swatow, Amoy, Foo-

chow, Canton, and all places on the North and West Rivers, Hoihow, Kwang-chow-wan, Haiphong and Yunnan.

5.—If the foregoing four proposals are approved by the importers, the yarn dealers will make a deposit of 50 cents per bale upon delivery, whether purchased before or after the agreement, such deposit to bear interest at 6 per cent. per annum, to form a fund to secure the undersigned yarn dealers against any default they may incur towards the importers on account of purchases made after the execution of the agreement. If any of the undersigned go out of business after the clearing of all their purchases made since the date of the agreement and after settling up all accounts relating to same, their contribution towards the guarantee fund, after all deduction (if any), shall be refunded to them together with the interest due thereon. No refund, however, shall be made until the fund reaches the sum of \$100,000. Payments of fifty cents per bale deposit are to be made by the yarn dealers until the fund reaches a total of \$250,000 when such payments shall cease.

In case of failure or other causes diminishing the total of \$250,000 the yarn dealers shall resume payment of the fifty cents per bale until the fund again reaches \$250,000 when such payments, are again to cease.

Sales during the interval are nil, arrivals amount to 1,986 bales, stock estimated at 98,000, and sold but uncleared yarn in native hands 55,000 bales.

Local Manufacture:—No business.

Japanese yarn:—Sales of 450 bales No. 20s at \$125 to \$130 are reported.

Raw Cotton:—Nothing doing in Indian descriptions, but about 200 bales Thooingchow are reported sold at \$24. Quotations are \$19 to \$22 Indian and \$22 to \$25 Chinese.

Exchange on India closes to-day at Rs. 170 for T/T and Rs. 171 for Post. On Shanghai 72½ and on Japan 112.

PIECE GOODS.

Messrs. Noel Murray & Co.'s Report on the Shanghai Piece Goods Trade, dated Shanghai, 25th October, 1906, states:—Another month is drawing to an end without much relief coming to our market. The only satisfactory feature being the continuance of really abnormally fine weather, even for this proverbially fine month. The country people have certainly had most exceptional opportunities for their harvest operations, which cannot fail to largely compensate for the reverses earlier in the season, and if the demand for imports does not show a vast improvement after this there must be something very radically wrong. Unlooked-for circumstances have helped to lower prices of the staple makes to a level considerably under what they have been for years which should certainly stimulate the consumption. A very noticeable feature of the trade is the rapidly growing demand for the more expensive and less durable Fancy Cloths, which goes to show that it is not the impoverishment of the country that is making the demand for plain fabrics so dull. Fashions are changing, and there can be no doubt that the tendency will be for all, except perhaps the labouring classes, to make more and more use of foreign ready-made under clothing in place of the wadded cotton garments that have been in vogue for so long a time. Although fresh business in still practically at a standstill more movement is noticeable amongst the natives, importers finding clearances of former purchases gradually improving. This has been the case more particularly with the northern markets, which are apparently anxious to lay in supplies before their seasons close. It is reported that a fair quantity of American makes have been resold chiefly for Tientsin, but Newchwang is also taking some, as well as fancy goods, some fair lines of Venetians being specially mentioned. It has been announced during the interval that the Japanese and Chinese have come to an understanding now that the former will give up the administration of Newchwang on the 31st December, by which time it is hoped all the questions regarding Customs Houses, etc., in Manchuria will have been settled. The Japanese are evidently able to trade up there as one of the leading firms here has been buying Indian yarns on this market and shipping them up, though possibly they are going via Dalny. Shipments to the Yangtze ports are improving. Ningpo is quiet, but Tsingtau and Chefoo are still showing a fair demand. The Manchester market is strong, a telegram this morning reporting that prices are advancing owing to the scarcity of yarn caused by the spinners' strike. Quotations for many articles are quite prohibitive, though here and there, but more particularly in fancy makes, a small forward business has been done. The

Liverpool market for Cotton is quiet and quotations are lower. Reuter quoted Mid-American 6.29d., but private wires received to-day make it 6.27d. Egyptian is 9½d. The latest New York quotation was 10.99 cents for January option. The market there is said to be quite cleared of 2.85 yard and 3 yard makes, while there is a good home demand for 3.25 yard cloths and also the Red Sea ports. Prices are falling away for imported yarns as exchange rises, and operators are only buying from hand to mouth. For the local spinnings prices are being upheld by the forward contractors, who are clearing very slowly, the mills carrying heavy stocks for them. Cotton is being kept up apparently for the benefit of the short sellers for this month. There has perhaps been a little more enquiry this week and in one or two quarters we have heard of small orders going through for Manchester staple makes for the early Spring trade, but they were quite the exception. In dyed fancies a steady flow of small orders continues to go forward. The only spot business to speak of is at the regularly weekly auctions where prices have kept steady to firm throughout.

EXCHANGE.

FRIDAY, Nov. 2nd.

ON LONDON.—Telegraphic Transfer...2/3½
 Bank Bills, on demand2.3 7/8
 Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight...2.3 1/2
 Bank Bills at 4 months' sight2/3 3/4
 Credits, at 4 months' sight2/4 1/2
 Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight 2/4 1/2
 ON PARIS.—Bank Bills, on demand...238 1/2
 Credits 4 months' sight293
 ON GERMANY.—On demand234 1/2
 ON NEW YORK.—Bank Bills, on demand 55 1/2
 Credits, 60 days' sight56 1/2
 ON BOMBAY.—Telegraphic Transfer...17 1/2
 Bank, on demand17 1/2
 ON CALCUTTA.—Telegraphic Transfer 170 1/2
 Bank, on demand.....17 1/2
 ON SHANGHAI.—Bank, at sight.....72 1/2
 Private, 30 days' sight73 1/2
 ON YOKOHAMA.—On demand112
 ON MANILA.—On demand111 1/2
 ON SINGAPORE.—On demand.....2 p.c.p.m.
 ON BATAVIA.—On demand.....138 1/2
 ON HAIPHONG.—On demand1 1/2 p.c.p.m.
 ON SAIGON.—On demand1 p.c.p.m.
 ON BANGKOK.—On demand.....61 1/2
 SOLE EIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate ... \$8.65
 GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael\$46.10
 BAR SILVER, per oz.....32 1/2

HONGKONG QUOTATIONS.

HONGKONG, 2nd November, 1906.

Apricot\$12 to \$13
 Borax\$17 .. 19
 Cassia\$15 .. 18
 Cloves\$17 .. \$36
 Camphor\$160 .. —
 Cow Bezoar\$130 .. \$140
 Fennel Seed\$6 .. —
 Galangal— .. —
 Grapes\$17 .. —
 Kismis\$20 .. —
 Olibanum\$2 .. \$13
 Oil Sandalwood\$250 .. \$350
 „ Rosa.....\$50 .. \$150
 „ Cassia\$200 .. —
 Raisins\$6 .. —
 Sandalwood\$19 .. —
 Saltpetre\$11 .. —

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

Per steamer *Machaon*, sailed on 10th October.
 For Port Said:—13 rolls matting. For Suez:—50 cases cassia. For Alexandria:—200 cases cassia. For Harve:—123 bales canes, 54 cases camphor, 30 packages tea, 161 cases china and blackwood-ware. For Harve, London or Hamburg:—20 cases vermilion. For Havre, London or Antwerp:—40 cases cantharides. For Havre, London, Hamburg or Antwerp:—50 cases bristles. For London:—885 boxes tea, 50 cases pearl shell, 25 cases cantharides, 144 rolls matting, 260 bales canes, 2,797 cases preserves, 300 casks preserves, 40 boxes essential oil, 100 casks soy, 149 bales feathers, 586 bales canes. For London or Glasgow:—751 casks preserves, 1,125 cases preserves. For Swansea:—216 bags ore. For Manchester:—25 bales waste silk. For Dundee:—70 bales tea mats. For Leith:—50 casks preserves, 300 cases preserves. For London, Hamburg or Antwerp:—75 cases bristles. For Hamburg:—350 bales canes. For Rotterdam:—200 bales leaf tobacco, 6 cases cigars, 253 rolls matting, 349 casks preserves, 210 cases preserves. For Antwerp:—301 bales leaf tobacco, 150 bales split bamboo, 85 rolls matting, 35 bales feathers, 200 bales bamboo scraps, 20 cases bristles.

Per steamer *Prinz Ludwig*, sailed on 24th Oct. For Aden:—50 rolls chinaware, 25 cases cassia. For Suez:—25 cases cassia. For Alexandrette:—15 cases chinaware. For Naples:—341 half-chests tea, 200 bales broken cassia, 5 cases essential oil, 3 cases hats, 1 bale leaf tobacco. For Genoa:—625 bales raw silk, 50 cases essential oil, 1 case curios, 1 case tea. For Antwerp:—255 bales leaf tobacco, 200 bales split bamboo, 9 cases seeds. For Rotterdam or Hamburg:—60 cases bristles. For Rotterdam:—305 half-chests tea, 3 cases cigars. For Amsterdam:—368 cases preserves, 50 cases preserves, 10 cases chinaware. For Rotterdam:—475 cases ginger, 150 cases ginger. For Bremen:—880 half-chests tea, 300 bales feathers, 65 cases preserves. For Hamburg:—463 rolls matting, 250 cases cassia, 245 half-chests tea, 182 bales canes, 71 cases curios, 70 cases essential oil, 65 cases ginger, 60 cases cantharides, 58 cases preserves, 23 cases chinaware, 20 cases bristles, 20 cases vermillion, 10 cases feathers, 8 bales feathers, 4 cases cigars, 2 cases blackwoodware. For Bremen or Hamburg:—125 bales feathers. For Hamburg or London:—109 boxes cassia. For Copenhagen:—4 cases hats.

SHARE REPORTS.

HONGKONG. 2nd November, 1906.—The position of the market remains practically unchanged, and without any features of importance to report.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai show a further improvement, with sales during the week at \$820, \$817½, and finally at \$820, the market closing with a few small sellers at the last rate. Nationals remain unchanged with buyers at \$47 and sellers at \$50.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Unions continue with sellers at \$775, and it is probable that shares could be got at \$770. No shares have changed hands during the week. All other stocks under this heading remain weak with sellers and no sales to report.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkong have been placed at \$332½ and Chinas at \$95, both closing firm with buyers at these rates.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao have found buyers at the improved rates of \$26¼ and \$27, closing firm at the latter rate. Indo-Chinas have been enquired for at \$72, but we have heard of no sales, and the market remains inactive. Douglases have declined to \$40 with sellers and no sales to report. Star Ferries have also fallen and are now procurable at \$26 for old and \$18 for new shares. Shells have been placed at 30s. and more are wanted at the price. China and Vanillas remain unchanged and without business.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars have ruled weak, and after small sales at \$145 are obtainable at a lower rate. Luzons remain unchanged and without any business.

MINING.—Raubs ruled strong in the early part of the week, and sales were effected as high as \$10. The market, however, has since weakened and at the close shares are obtainable at \$9½.

DOCKS, WHARVES, AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whompoa Docks declined to \$150 in the early part of the week, with sales; later, however, the market recovered and offers to buy at \$151 met with no response although at time of closing sellers at \$152 fail to find buyers. Shanghai Docks have ruled between Tls. 100 and Tls. 102 cash, with sales, while sales have been effected for December at Tls. 102½, and for March at Tls. 103, Tls. 103½, Tls. 104, and Tls. 104½. We have nothing else to report under this heading.

LANDS, HOTELS, AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands have fallen to \$105 without sales, sellers ruling the market at time of closing. Humphreys have found further buyers and are still wanted at \$11½. There are no other changes or business to report under this heading.

COTTON MILLS.—No changes or business to report.

MISCELLANEOUS.—China Providents have been placed at \$9.35, \$9.25 and \$9.15, Dairy Farms at \$17 (closing with further buyers), Cements at \$18½ and \$19 Electrics at \$15, and Morning Posts at \$22. Steam Waterboats have declined to \$6, at which rate, however, there are buyers.

Closing quotations are as follows:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Albionbra	\$200	\$120
Banks—		
Hongkong & Shanghai	\$125	\$820, sellers
National B. of China		London, £95
A. Shares	£6	\$47, buyers
Bell's Asbestos E. A.	12s. 6d.	\$7, sellers
China-Borneo Co.	\$12	\$10, sellers
China Light & P. Co.	\$10	\$10, sellers
China Provident	\$10	\$9.25, sellers
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo	Tls. 50	Tls. 75
Hongkong	\$10	\$13, sellers
International	Tls. 75	Tls. 7
Laou Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 83
Soychoe	Tls. 500	Tls. 325
Dairy Farm	\$6	\$17, buyers
Docks & Wharves—		
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$90, sellers
H. & W. Dock	\$50	\$151, buyers
New Amoy Dock	\$6½	\$16½, sellers
Shanghai Dock and Eng. Co., Ltd.	Tls. 100	Tls. 102
Shanghai & H. Wharf	Tls. 100	Tls. 227½
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$22, sellers
G. Island Cement	\$10	\$19.
Hongkong & C. Gas	£10	\$175, buyers
Hongkong Electric	\$10	\$15, sales & buy.
H. H. L. Tramways	\$100	\$215, buyers
Hongkong Hotel Co.	\$50	\$112½
Hongkong Ice Co.	\$25	\$236, sellers
Hongkong Rope Co.	\$10	\$23, sellers
H'kong S. Waterfront	\$10	\$6, buyers
Insurances—		
Canton	\$50	\$300, sellers
China Fire	\$20	\$95, sales & buy.
China Traders	\$25	\$95, buyers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$332½, sales & buy
North China	£5	Tls. 85
Union	\$100	\$775, sellers
Yangtze	\$60	\$165, sellers
Land and Buildings		
H'kong Land Invest.	\$100	\$105, sellers
Humphreys' Estate	\$10	\$11½, buyers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$39
Shanghai Land	{ Tls. 50 } Tls. 97½, n. issue	{ Tls. 25 } Tls. 56½, n. issue
West Point Building	\$50	\$50, sellers
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 250	\$450, nominal
Raubs	18 10	\$9½, buyers
Philippine Co.	\$10	\$5
Refineries—		
China Sugar	\$100	\$145, sellers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$22
Steamship Companies—		
China and Manila	\$25	\$23, sellers
Douglas Steamship	\$50	\$40, sellers
H. Canton & M.	\$15	\$27, buyers
Indo-China S. N. Co.	£10	\$73, sellers
Shell Transport Co.	£1	\$6½, buyers
Star Ferry	\$10	\$26, sellers
Do. New	\$5	\$18, sellers
Shanghai & H. Dyeing	\$50	nominal
South China M. Post.	\$25	\$22, sales
Steam Laundry Co.	\$5	\$5.75, sales
Stores & Dispensaries—		
Campbell, M. & Co.	\$10	\$32
Powell & Co., Wm.	\$10	\$8, sellers
Watkins	\$10	\$4, sellers
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$12½, sellers
United Asbestos	\$4	\$8, buyers
Do. Founders	\$10	\$150

VERNON & SMYTH Brokers.

Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s Share Report, for the week ending October 25th, 1906, states:—A fairly large business has been done in Shanghai Dock and Engineering Co. Ltd. during the week at falling rates, the market closing with buyers at Tls. 100 for cash and December.

Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banks. The London rate has gone up £2 during the week, local rates have responded, and shares are now wanted at \$810. The London rate is £95.10. The T.T. on London to day is 3s. 1½d. **Marine and Fire Insurance.**—No business reported. **Shipping.**—Indo-China S. N. Co. Ltd. The price of these shares has remained fairly steady during the week, business being quoted at Tls. 52½, October, Tls. 53, 53½ and 54 December. March shares have changed hands at Tls. 52½. Shanghai Tugs are wanted at Tls. 56 and shares are obtainable at Tls. 57. **Docks and Wharves.**—Shanghai Dock and Engineering Co. Ltd. Business is reported at Tls. 104, 104½ and 100 for cash and Oct. Tls. 107½, 105, 101 and 100 for December, closing with buyers at the latter rate. Shanghai and Hongkong Wharves. Business has been done at Tls. 233½ for October and Tls. 237½ and 235 for December, and Tls. 240 for January, 1907. **Sugars.**—No business reported. **Mining.**—No business reported. **Lands.**—No business is reported, but Shanghai Land Shares remain steady at last quotations. **Industrial.**—Cotton Mills. With the exception of Ewo, which have fallen from Tls. 77 December to Tls. 75 December, all the other Cotton Mill Shares remain steady at last week's quotations. Business is reported in Laou Kung Mows at Tls. 85 and 86 December. **Internationals** are wanted at Tls. 70 cash. **Kalumpung Rubber Shares.** An operation is reported in these at Tls. 39. **Ice Shares** changed hands at Tls. 15, but shares are unobtainable at Tls. 16. **Shanghai Gas Co.** Old cum New were dealt in at Tls. 125, and new shares are quoted at Tls. 106. **Maatschappij, &c., in Langkats.** Business is reported at Tls. 232½ and 233 October, and Tls. 233½ and 235 December. **Stores and Hotels.**—Hall and Holtz are quoted at \$25; there are sellers at this rate. **Astor House Shares** at \$21½ and Centrals at \$16. **Miscellaneous.**—Shanghai Telephone Shares are wanted at \$26 and business has been done at this rate. **Loans and Debentures.**—Shanghai 5 per cent. Land Debs. are wanted at Tls. 85.

TONNAGE.

HONGKONG. 2nd November.—Freights remain about the same as last reported. From Saigon 13 cents per picul last; to Philippines, 24 and 26 cents per picul according to size. From Java to Hongkong and Canton, (Molasses) one settlement reported at 28 cents per picul. From Bangkok to this, 23 and 30 cents liners' terms. From Newchwang to Canton, 17½ cents per picul last; to Amoy, 18 cents per picul last. From South Japan Coal port to Swatow, \$1.50 last; Hongkong, \$1.30 last; to Hongay, \$1.50 last; to Canton, \$2.10 last; to Singapore, \$1.50 nominal. From Hongay to Hongkong, \$1.10 per ton. The following are the settlements:—

Esang—British steamer, 1,127 tons, Newchwang to Canton, 17 cents per picul.
Yikong—British steamer, 1,236 tons, Newchwang to Canton, 17½ cents per picul.
Spic—Norwegian steamer, 870 tons, Newchwang to Amoy (part cargo), 18 cents per picul.
Adana—British steamer, 2,178 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$1.25 per ton.
Utr—Norwegian steamer, 884 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$1.60, Canton, \$2.10 per ton.
Landrat Scheiff—German steamer, 1,000 tons, Moji to Canton, \$2.10 option Hongkong, \$1.50 per ton.
Telemachus—British steamer, 1,340 tons, Saigon to Manila (32,000 piculs), 24 cents per picul.
Bourbon—French steamer, 907 tons, Saigon to Cebu (26,000 piculs), 26 cents per picul.
Flume—German steamer, 838 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines (27,000 piculs), 26 cents per picul.
Laertes—British steamer, 1,514 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 13 cents per picul.
Nord—Norwegian steamer, 730 tons, Iloilo to Hongkong, \$3.00 lump sum.
Sullberg—German steamer, 782 tons, monthly, one month, private terms.

Messrs. Wheelock & Co.'s Freight Market Report, dated Shanghai, 25th October, 1906, states:—Our Homeward Freight Market has remained in the same state as at last time of writing, although things should improve slightly during the next few weeks, after which the Northern Ports will be closed for the winter. **Coastwise.**—We are very pleased to be able to record a decided change in affairs on the coast, rates have risen all round owing to a brisk demand in all directions and a scarcity of tonnage seeking employment. There is some slight demand for River Freights besides the usual coasting business, with various enquires for coal freights, so that the market at the close is very firm with an upward tendency.

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

October—

ARRIVALS

- 28, Amara, British str., from Swatow.
 28, Chowfa, German str., from Swatow.
 28, Haitan, British str., from Coast Ports.
 28, Keongwai, German str., from Bangkok.
 28, Kumsang, British str., from Calcutta.
 28, Kwongsang, British str., from Shanghai.
 28, Shaohsing, British str., from Shanghai.
 28, Soshu Maru, Japanese str., from Shanghai.
 29, Awa Maru, Japanese str., from Shanghai.
 29, China, American str., from San Francisco.
 29, Claverdon, British str., from Cardiff.
 29, Drufar, Norwegian str., from Bangkok.
 29, Mathilde, German str., from Haiphong.
 29, Nikko Maru, Jap. str., from Melbourne.
 29, Pronto, Norwegian str., from Newchwang.
 29, Quarta, German str., from Swatow.
 29, Soudan, British str., from Southampton.
 29, Tonkin, French str., from Marseilles.
 29, Tourane, French str., from Yokohama.
 30, A. Rickmers, Ger. str., from Kolsichang.
 30, Fukushima Maru, Jap. str., from Kobe.
 30, Halmun, Br. tish str., from Tamsui.
 30, Loongsang, British str., from Manila.
 30, Nikobar, Danish str., from Foochow.
 30, Phu-yen, French str., from Bangkok.
 30, Rubi, British str., from Manila.
 30, Shoshu Maru, Jap. str., from Shanghai.
 30, Yawata Maru, Jap. str., from Nagasaki.
 30, Diadem, British cruiser, from practice.
 30, King Alfred, British cr., from Weihaiwei.
 30, Monmouth, British cruiser, from Weihaiwei.
 31, Benmohr, British str., from London.
 31, Habsburg, German str., from Shanghai.
 31, Hanyang, British str., from Swatow.
 31, Joshin Maru, Japanese str., from Tamsui.
 31, Karin, Swedish str., from Tourane.
 31, Prometheus, British str., from Liverpool.
 31, Roald, Norw. str., from Wakamatsu.
 31, Vandalia, German str., from New York

November—

- 1, Fiume, German str., from Canton.
 1, Flora, British cruiser, from Mirs Bay.
 1, Kamakura Maru, Jap. str., from London.
 1, Kanju Maru, Jap. str., from Hoihow.
 1, Kent, British cruiser, from Weihaiwei.
 1, Kwangtah, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
 1, Kwongsang, British str., from Canton.
 1, Malta, British str., from Bombay.
 1, Mercedes, British str., from Weihaiwei.
 1, Prosper, Norwegian str., from Canton.
 1, Sierra Morena, British str., from Java.
 1, Tingsang, British str., from Chefoo.

October—

DEPARTURES.

- 28, Amigo, German str., for Hoihow.
 28, Antiochus, British str., for Tacoma.
 28, Heim, Norwegian str., for Bangkok.
 28, Helene, German str., for Swatow.
 28, J. Diederichsen, Ger. str., for K'chauwan.
 28, Lisa, Swedish str., for Saigon.
 28, Nissin Maru, Japanese str., for Swatow.
 28, Ta'shan, British str., for Swatow.
 28, Telemachus, British str., for Saigon.
 28, Totomi Maru, Japanese str., for Bombay.
 28, Yingchow, British str., for Shanghai.
 29, Chowfa, German str., for Canton.
 29, Kwongsang, British str., for Canton.
 29, Tonkin, French str., for Shanghai.
 30, Cheongshing, British str., for Canton.
 30, Choyang, British str., for Shanghai.
 30, Hanoi, French str., for Haiphong.
 30, Johanne, German str., for Haiphong.
 30, Masan Maru, Japanese str., for Tamsui.
 30, Pronto, Norwegian str., for Canton.
 30, Shaohsing, British str., for Canton.
 30, Siberia, American str., for San Francisco.
 30, Sallberg, German str., for Quinhon.
 30, Tourane, French str., for Europe.
 31, Andrea Rickmers, Ger. str., for Canton.
 31, Awa Maru, Japanese str., for London.
 31, Devawongse, German str., for Bangkok.
 31, Haitan, British str., for Coast Ports.
 31, Taming, British str., for Manila.
 31, Yochow, British str., for Shanghai.

November—

- 1, Benmohr, British str., for Japan.
 1, Halmun, British str., for Swatow.
 1, Hanoi, French str., for Haiphong.
 1, Kwanglee, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 1, Nikko Maru, Japanese str., for Japan.
 1, Nikobar, Danish str., for Singapore.
 1, Prometheus, British str., for Shanghai.
 1, Taikosan Maru, Jap. str., for Kuchinotsu.
 1, Tsurugisan Maru, Jap. str., for K'notsu.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per *Baimun*, from Tamsui, &c., Messrs. Daniels and Windson.
 Per *Loongsang*, from Manila, Col. West, U.S.N., Messrs. Le Roy, A. Bartlett, F. M. Muir, and Miss Minnie Edwards.
 Per *Shaohsing*, from Shanghai, Messrs. N. Leitch and Galaboff.
 Per *Tonkin*, for Hongkong from Marseilles, Messrs. Hollmann and Muller, Mr. and Mrs. Andouard and 3 children, Messrs. J. R. Morrison, W. G. Keay, Rev. Scossa, and Miss Mandaroux; from Singapore, Mr. Albertz, Mr. and Mrs. Talbot and 2 children, Mr. Earnshaw, Mrs. Irma Guion, and Mrs. Gervaise; from Batavia, Mr. J. W. Van Sluyters; from Saigon, Mr. d'Auxion, Mousiegr. J. C. Bouchut, Mr. W. W. Clark, Mr. Isidore Dumortier, Mr. and Mrs. Seymat, and Mr. Pritchard; for Shanghai from Marseilles, Mr. Charrignon, Mrs. Akermann, Mrs. Casenave, son and daughter, Messrs. Rotach, Chapal, Mrs. Decaris and daughter, Messrs. Rene Humblof, Cornic, Merrien, E. Hartel, Mrs. Philippas, Mrs. Colomb, Revs. Lebel and Roger, Mr. Bacheciampe, Mrs. Angelini; from Port Said, Messrs. H. Attias, Macris, Theophalia, Bofas, Negrin, Stramondis, and Orolagos; from Saigon, Mrs. Sarry, Messrs. J. Duban Josse and B. Voberjansky; for Kobe from Marseilles, Mmes. Henry, Gras, Martin, Robris, and Mr. Thiech; from Bombay, Capt. H. M. Durand, Mr. and Mrs. Fitchally and infant; from Singapore, Mrs. Norman; for Yokohama from Marseilles, Messrs. Perilland, William F. Carfe, Miss E. Dixon, Mrs. Huntly, and Miss Sadler; from Singapore, Mr. Henry Lutz; from Saigon, Mr. and Mrs. E. Poissant.
 Per *Tourane*, for Hongkong from Yokohama, Mr. D. Dorahjee; from Kobe, Messrs. K. Antia, H. C. Greay and Labee Jarrier; from Shanghai, Mr. J. S. Senna, Miss Stita M. Dowall, Miss Jeimunia M. Dowall, Messrs. A. Le Breton, James W. Porter, Capt. Kofod, Comte and Comtesse C. A. Wachmeister, Messrs. P. Steche, F. Steche, Mr. and Mrs. Pratt and infant, Messrs. J. G. Schwoter, A. Silva, Bernh. Eriksen, Ernst Eliasson and S. Ikeda.
 Per *China*, from San Francisco, &c., Messrs. R. B. Scott, W. F. Barnes, T. E. Wars, Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Suggett, Mr. and Mrs. T. A. Batchelder, Mr. R. N. Batchelder, Mr. G. Shiohoma, Mrs. R. M. Shearer, Messrs. W. F. Kennedy, Jno. H. Green, A. E. Farland, L. M. Klepleesser, R. M. Corwine, Mr. and Mrs. C. P. Hathaway, Messrs. Geo. G. Hard, C. J. Connell, Chas. B. McShee, Mr. and Mrs. John Marquardt, Mrs. H. Vernon, Mr. and Mrs. R. M. Clarke, Dr. M. C. Terry, Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Nichols, Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Francis, Mrs. Robin Anderson, Miss Majorie Anderson Dr. and Mrs. D. P. Barrows, Miss Anna Barrows, Miss Ella Barrows, Miss Elizabeth Barrows, Master Thomas Barrows, Miss R. Cable, Mr. Chas. T. Palmer, Mr. and Mrs. L. L. Hyer, Master Hyer, Messrs. D. Turnbull and J. L. Barr.
 Per *Awa Maru*, from Shanghai for Hongkong, Mr. W. Hamley, Mr. and Mrs. Harris, Messrs. C. J. Groat, C. Waddington, Mr. and Mrs. Perkins, Messrs. E. O. Brownlon, T. Kyn, Mr. and Mrs. H. Wilkin; for Singapore, Mr. J. A. Goelzer; for Port Said, Mr. E. J. Ward; for Marseilles, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. J. Eldridge; for London, Mr. and Mrs. and Miss Adamson and child, and Mr. D. T. James.
 Per *Hanyang*, from Swatow, Mrs. Focken.
 Per *Habsburg*, from Shanghai, Commodore Barends, Messrs. King, Behr, Wachtel, E. C. Lane and family, A. Warrum, Wenck, Miss Smedley, Messrs. Curb and Kliorank, Mrs. Guterres and family, Mrs. Denham, Messrs. von Lehnen and Kohn.
 Per *Soudan*, for Hongkong from Southampton, Mrs. Scott Moncrieff, Lieut. Col. and Mrs. Carter and 2 children, Col. Reid, Capt. and Mrs. Collingwood and child; from Durban, Capt. Dave and Thompson, Lieuts. Large, Pearson, Drew, Dixon, Lieut. Col. Scott Moncrieff, Major and Mrs. Stephenson and 2 children, Capt. Miller and Cunningham 2nd Lieuts. Macdonald and Fackon, Lieut. Quartermaster and Mrs. Falcher and 2 children, Sgt. Major and Mrs. Deacon and 2 children, Bandmaster and Mrs. Calthorpe and 2 children, Quartermaster and Mrs. F. King and 3 children; for Taken from Southampton, Sergt. Howis; from Durban, Major Burton, Lieuts. Webb Bowen, Scarborough and Home, 2nd Lieut. Gale, Capt.

and Mrs. Lewis Lloyd and child, Lieut. Tul'och and Lieut. Col. Anderson.

Per *Kwangtah*, from Shanghai, Mr. W. G. Pitcairn.

Per *Kamakura Maru*, from London, &c., for Hongkong, Mr. and Mrs. H. Smith, Masters G. Smith and Smith, Mr. P. Grant, Mrs. C. Robertson, Miss K. Robertson, Master G. Robertson, and Mr. G. Stevens; for Yokohama, Mr. A. Mitchell, Miss F. Prungle, and Mr. J. Richardson.

DEPARTED.

Per *Empress of China*, for Vancouver, &c., Capt. Whittle, Messrs. F. R. Talbot, J. A. Moller, A. R. Decker, B. E. Vieta, A. R. Carre, Geo. H. Hees, R. W. Hees, J. T. Fox, J. Summers, Leefe, McIntyre, Miss McIntyre, Messrs. Mann Lee, F. E. H. Leeke, Famin and D. E. Brown.

Per *Tartar*, for Vancouver, &c., Rev. H. J. Von Qualen, Mrs. G. F. Sproat, Master Sproat, Messrs. J. H. Green, J. Sperry, A. Walker, Mrs. Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. Burns, Mrs. F. R. Hill, Mrs. Smith, Messrs. W. Kinneard, L. F. Huech, Geo. H. Hees, R. W. Hees, R. T. Telebith, L. M. Leefe, W. Robinson, Famin, Harrington and Turner.

Per *Inaba Maru*, from Hongkong, for Kobe and Yokohama, Mr. and Mrs. K. Iijima and two children, Mr. and Mrs. E. Bower, Mrs. E. Thomas, Mrs. S. Sanari, Miss Katorine Horzel, Dr. K. Sakurane, Master Bower, Messrs. W. S. Pyper, Y. Takeposhi, J. M. James, M. Matsumoto, I. Yamada, M. Yoshida and Kamahara.

Per *Tourane*, for Saigon, Messrs. B. Kruse, T. P. Pratt, M. Ponce, Mr. and Mrs. Lino; for Singapore, Messrs. C. M. G. Burnie and Jasomel, for Colombo, Mr. T. W. Corkhill; for Marseilles, Messrs. H. L. C. J. Jeannel, Francisco G. de Queiriz, Francisco X. de Poiva, Francisco Pereira, Antonio V. da Conceicao, Joaquim Fernandes, Jose dos Santos, Luiz Francisco, and Jose Lopes da Silva.

Per *Tonkin*, for Shanghai, Mr. P. Luttinghaus, Rev. P. Charles Thieband, Messrs. Joe Bush, da Silva, and Carl Windridy; for Yokohama, Comte de Flaux and Mr. J. H. J. Baker.

Per *Siberia*, for San Francisco, &c., Messrs. D. Harvey, R. A. McWilliams, H. P. White, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. H. Eastman, Mrs. I. N. Wilder and family, Mr. and Mrs. L. Ardain, Messrs. J. A. Japp, W. Taylor, T. D. McKay, Mrs. R. M. Healer, Mr. A. E. Fawland, Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Cheek, Messrs. J. W. Green, F. D. Deacon, J. G. Martin, Jr., F. Dodwell, G. B. Atkinson, T. E. Griffith, Thos. Hough, Sir C. Paul Chater, Mr. C. P. Chater, Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Waters and son, Messrs. Patrick Linn, A. H. Turner, P. E. Nettle, C. E. M. Ghee, Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Francis, Mr. L. M. Krepleever, Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Nicholls, Messrs. Chas. T. Palmer, G. G. Hard, Mr. and Mrs. D. P. Barrows and family, Miss R. Cable, Mr. C. J. Conell, Mr. and Mrs. Heger and son, Messrs. J. L. Ball, G. H. Shishima, Mrs. R. Anderson, Miss Anderson, Messrs. W. K. Kennedy, A. C. McMillan, Capt. Lyons, Mr. R. N. Carwine, Mr. and Mrs. C. P. Hathaway, Mrs. H. Vernon, Mr. D. Turnbull, Capt. and Mrs. G. Purton, Mr. A. J. Isral, and Capt. H. L. Talbat.

Per *Awa Maru*, for London, &c., Mr. H. A. Jones, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. A. Caldwell, Miss Caldwell, Mr. L. D. Johnston, Mrs. and Miss Richardson, Messrs. John Cree, Merrett, J. A. Yoelzee, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. J. Eldridge, Mr. and Mrs. and Miss Adamson and child, Messrs. E. J. Ward and D. T. James.

Per *Nikko Maru*, for Japan, Mr. R. G. Dieck, Mr. and Mrs. J. D. McGruer, Mr. and Mrs. F. Gresham, Misses A. and M. McGruer, Mrs. J. Russell, Mrs. S. Wilson, Master H. Wilson, Mr. and Mrs. A. Hawke, Mr. and Mrs. E. V. Thorn, Messrs. W. Laudale, H. Weynton, J. Butler, Mrs. W. Clark, Mrs. J. P. Barney, Mrs. H. D. Wise, Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Elizalde and 4 children, Mrs. M. Infante, Mr. C. Mackinnon, Mr. and Mrs. Beers, Mr. W. P. Barber, Sr. Don Joaquin Villota, Mrs. Barnes, Messrs. J. Aldanese and A. A. Brown.

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